



Annual Report 2013-14

Department of Youth Welfare, CUSAT

Monsoon Madness 3.1 - Chimmony



Forward

"An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision."

James McNeill Whistler

The broad objective of the Department of Youth Welfare is to enrich and integrate students' out-of-the-box thinking experiences in order to educate them to be better human being, socially just and creative leaders in the campus and in their larger communities. The Department has organized many programmes which challenged the stereo type thinking of the student community. The arts provide a more comprehensive and insightful education because they invite students to explore the emotional, intuitive, and irrational aspects of life that science is hard pressed to explain (Charles Fowler).

I would like to thank the amazing group of students who filled a science and technology University as a University with heart. I would like to thank many, from the Vice Chancellor to last officer of the University for understanding the value of activities and the team work encouraged. Obstacles taught us, how to deal challenges in most passionate way. We believe our mission become successful when the last student of the University is transformed to a responsible citizen.

I dedicate this report of activities before the University community.

Director, Students Welfare.

Kochi -22/ 01.04.2014

Seminar on Scientific Thinking and Rationalism





I Love my Campus; I Love my Planet.

As part of its move towards the green campus, Department of youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology has initiated a programme titled *I love my campus, I love my planet* from 05th may 2013. In view of increasing environmental sustainability in the campus, Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology is proposed a one year programme in the campus titled, '*I love my campus, I love my planet*'. The first phase of the programme, titled greening CUSAT 2013 will be inaugurated at 10 AM on 05th June, on World Environment Day at Kunhali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering by Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Honourable Vice Chancellor of CUSAT. Sri. P.K Sivanadan, Vice President (Technnical), Petronet CCK limited delivered environment day message. Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar; Dr. P.S Sreejith, Principal School Of Engineering; Dr. K.A Simon, Director, KMSME; Dr. M.B Santhoshkumar, Programme Co-ordinator, NSS; Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare and Mr. Jalin K Thampi, Terminal Manager, Petronet CCK spoke on the occasion.



As part of the programme, in a joint venture to observe World Environment Day, Department of Youth Welfare; National Service Scheme, School of Engineering; Petronet CCK Limited and Social Forestry Division, Government of Kerala is planting 200 saplings in the Cochin University Campus on 05th June 2013. The programme will be implemented in association with various staff and student organisations in the campus. Department of Youth Welfare planted ten mango trees at various spots in the campus two weeks back.



24th CUSAT International Rating Chess Tournament

The 24th CUSAT International Rating Chess Tournament, jointly organized by the CUSAT Chess club, Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Department of Physical Education, Cochin University of Science and Technology and Cochin University Union held at university open air auditorium from 09.05.2013 to 13.05.2013.

International Master V.A.V Rajesh, and FIDE Masters Srinivasa Rao M, Maheswaran P, Muralidharan M.B and Ram Aravind L N have participated in the five day-long event. A total of 325, including 234 FIDE rated players and one International Master from different parts of the country participated in the event.

Sri .K Babu, Honorable Minister for Fisheries and Excise, Government of Kerala, inaugurated the program at 10.30 am at the CUSAT auditorium on 10th May 2013. Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Vice-Chancellor presided over the function. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr. A Ramachandren Registrar and Sri M Kannan President, Chess Association Ernakulum felicitated the function. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Students Welfare, Department of Youth Welfare, welcomed the gathering and Dr. P G Sankaran Chairman, organizing committee proposed vote of thanks.



Sri. M Ephreme, International arbiter was the chief arbiter and Sri. K.A Unus, P.S Ameer, Ganesh and Plato V William were the deputy arbiters. 30 main cash awards, 21 category awards and 10 special category awards worth rupees two lakhs were given to the winners. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and State Bank of Travancore financially supported.



Mr. Syed Anwar Shahuli, from Integral Coach Factory won the 24th CUSAT International Chess Championship. Mr. Pradeep Kumar R.A from Tamilnadu and Mr. Srinivasa Rao M from Andhra Pradesh were first and second runners up respectively. Ajaya Bose Mohanachandran from Kerala declared as the best un-rated player. Mr. Vinay Thomas Abraham declared as the best player in the category 1000-1499 and Mr. Aravind K declared as the best player below 1500-1799.

The valedictory section of the 24th CUSAT International Rating Chess Tournament held at 6 pm on 13th May 2013 at CUSAT auditorium. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University distributed prizes and certificates to the winners. Mr. O.T Anilkumar, Joint Secretary, Chess Association Kerala presided over the function. Mr. M Ephrame International arbiter presented arbiters report. Mr. Vijayakumar Secretary, Chess Association Pathanamthitta, Mr. Vineeth

Kumar, Secretary Chess Association Alappuzha and Mr. M B Muraleedharan, Vice President, Chess Association Ernakulum felicitated the function. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Students Welfare, Department of Youth Welfare welcomed the gathering and Mr. M.S Anandhakrishnan, Secretary, Chess Association Ernakulum proposed the vote of thanks. The tournament had total prize money of ₹ 2,00,000. The champion of 24th CUSAT International Rating Chess Tournament received prize money of ₹ 25,000.

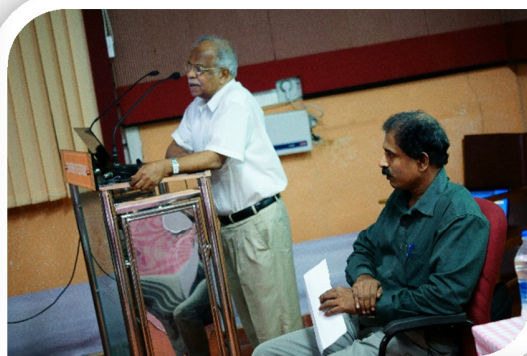
First 10 Main Prizes

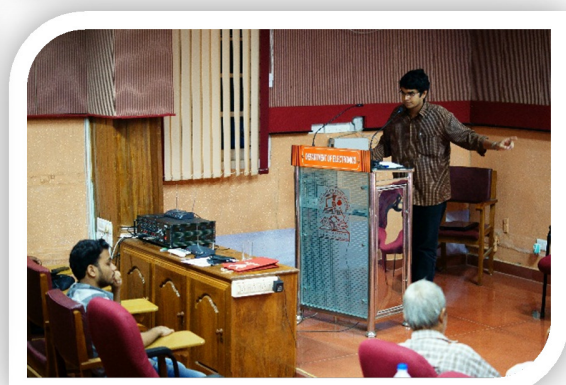
No	Rank	Name	Club
1	1	Syed Anwar Shazuli	ICF
2	2	Pradeep Kumar R.A	TN
3	3	Srinivasa Rao M.	AP
4	4	Rajesh V A V	TN
5	5	Kunal M	TN
6	6	Harikrishna. S.R.	KER
7	7	Abhijith M.	KER
8	8	Vincent Dave	KER
9	9	Abhishek A	KER
10	10	Maheswaran P	TN



Scientific thinking and Rationalism.

A one-day seminar on “Scientific Thinking and Rationalism” was organised by the Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology to promote scientific thinking among the students and youth in the Campus. Through the seminar, participants had an opportunity to develop the logic of “doing” science and discussing their arguments with experts. Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Honorable Vice Chancellor of the University inaugurated the seminar and appreciated the motive to promote scientific temper through the seminar. The Vice Chancellor stressed the importance scientific thinking in academic community and called for serious deliberations in the University for keeping scientific temper in academic community. Sri. C Ravichandran from University College Trivandrum presented the concept paper 1 on ‘*Faith and Brain: The Construction and Consolidation of faith in human brain*’. In the paper he emphasized on the logic of modern science in deciding and determining religious faith. Dr. K Babu Joseph, former Vice Chancellor of Cochin University of Science and Technology presided over the session. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare welcomed the gathering. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cochin University of Science and Technology; Prof. M.K Prasad, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Calicut and Prof. P.K Raveendran, Kerala Sasthra Sahathya Parishahth spoke on the occasion as discussants.



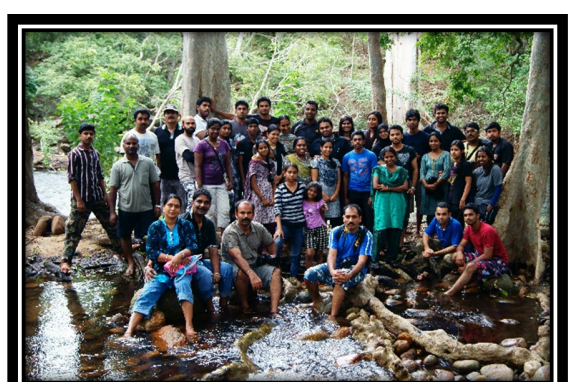


Dr. K. M Sheeba presented second concept paper on '*Science and Women*' at 01.45 PM. She pointed out that accepting scientific view as the whole truth leaves out the truth outside the domain of science, such as women, dalits and other marginalized communities. Dr. Jeeven Job Thomas presented third paper on '*Science: Myth and Reality*'. Prof. M.K Prasad, Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Calicut presided over the session. Prof. P.R Poduval, Dr. T S Saju, Prof. P.K Raveendran and various participants actively contributed in the discussions. The seminar ended at 04.20 PM. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Department of Youth Welfare concluded the sessions and proposed vote of thanks.

Monsoon Madness: *Experiencing Nature*

Not many people today are fortunate enough to experience and understand the beauty of nature. The students of CUSAT are quite lucky to experience the nature through “Monsoon Madness” - monsoon camps organized by the Department of Youth Welfare in association with Department of Forests and Wildlife Government of Kerala. The primary goal of the camp is to provide the students with an opportunity to immerse themselves into nature and get a better sense of understanding and appreciation about the resources and deep beauty of nature. The camp will provide the fundamentals for improvement, as well as teach sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork.

The Monsoon Madness 3.1 was at Chinnar Wild life Sanctuary. The Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the rain shadow region of the Western Ghats of Kerala and represents a large number of plants and animals unique to the thorny vegetation. Apart from the dry thorn forests, due to the significant variation in altitude and rainfall, it has a wide array of habitat types like deciduous forests, dry thorny forest, riparian types, sholas and grasslands that are interspersed with plains, hillocks, rocks and cliffs which provide microhabitats for varied forms of life.



The first team started off the trip to Chinnar at 10.30 AM on 26th July 2013. There were 36 students from various departments along with Dr. P.K Baby, Director Department of Youth Welfare; Dr. M Bhasi, Director, School of Management Studies; Mr. Sinesh A.S and Ms. Minna Merlin Stanley, lady staff-in-charge. By afternoon we reached Chiyyappa waterfall from where we had our lunch. Nearly by 6.30 PM we reached our destination. There were two dormitories in the camp site on the riverside. Mr. Shaji, Forester, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary handled the first session and gave a description about the geography, flora and fauna of Chinnar.

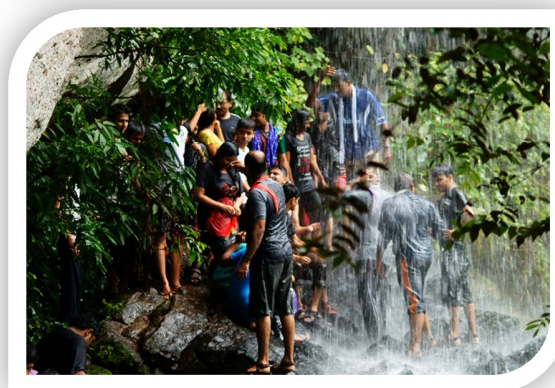


On the 2nd day we started off at 6.00 AM towards the visitor's tower to see wild animals with Sri. Ponnusami. It was a nice experience to walk in between the forest areas. Right after that we went to the museum where we saw many footprints and live photos of some living species in the jungle. After breakfast from the stay, we have begun trekking to the dry forests at Chinnar Sanctuary. There were many numbers of tombs and rock pictures depicting the life of ancient tribes. After lunch we started another journey through riverbanks to experience a different type of forest. The trekking was made very interesting by listening to the sounds of birds. Mr. Dhanushkodi, an environmental social worker explained various flora and fauna. We saw star tortoise, deer, wild buffalo and many birds in the forest. We spent some time on the mountain top in silence. In the evening, Mr. Dhanushkodi took a session followed by an interaction with the local tribal people. The very next day we started off with our luggage to Ernakulam. On the way we visited the sandalwood factory at Marayoor. By 4.30 we reached back at the campus.

The Monsoon madness 3.2 started on Friday, 2nd August, 2013 to Chimmony wildlife sanctuary and ended on Sunday, 4th August 2013. There were a total of 45 campers that included 42 students and 3 staff members. Dr. P.K Baby, Director, Youth Welfare, Mr. Sinesh A S and Ms. Minna Merlin Stanley accompanied the team. The Serene and beautiful Chimmony wildlife sanctuary, located in the Western Ghats, is one of the world's 25 bio-diversity hot-spots, the haven of innumerable species of endangered plants and animals.



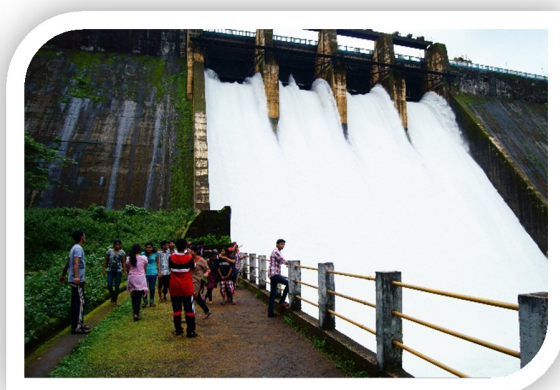
On the first day of the camp the students were welcomed by Mr Dharamrajan, an environmental activist. He talked about the role of every organism in maintaining the balance of life on this planet. His talk was a perfect blend of philosophy, science and environment. The campers were also taken to the Chimmony Dam where they spent some time looking at the amazing art of nature. The campers were later shown a documentary called “The Mountains of the Monsoon”. It was about a wildlife photographer who had spent one decade of his life in pursuit of an anonymous big cat that he happened to just look upon one fine day in the Western Ghats. This was followed by the detailed discussion and some thought sharing by the campers.



The second day started with a small walk along the dam. Later the campers went for trekking in the forest that lasted for about 5 hours. During the trekking the campers saw the phenomenal beauty of nature that comprised of uncountable species of insects, birds, monkeys, giant squirrels, snakes, waterfalls, streams, animal footprints etc. After the trekking the campers were shown another documentary called “HOME” that left them thinking about what humankind has done to this miraculous planet of the universe and what they have to do now to make it right. The documentary

was followed by a very inspirational talk from Advocate Harish from ‘ONE EARTH ONE LIFE’. He made us convinced that we have to become intelligent consumers and thus help in conserving the environment. The day ended again with a thorough discussion among the campers.

The highlight of the third day was a documentary called “THE PLASTIC COW” which showed a paradox in our Indian culture. In India, as we all know, the cow is considered to be God. It is still worshipped in many parts of India. But it is forced to feed on the filthy garbage that comprises mainly of plastic. The plastic is killing the cows. The movie also showed that kilos of plastic are being surgically removed from the abdomens of the cows. The movie left most of the campers in tears. They came forward and voluntarily pledged to minimise their plastic consumption and make sure that the plastic that they use and the people around them use doesn’t reach to the mouth of the cows.



The camp actually transformed many young campers who now see the nature with a whole new perspective. By learning the value of nature, they learned value of humanity, compassion, discipline, team spirit and culture. To sum up, the Monsoon Madness camps filled with fun and life changing experiences. The possible ideas evolved in the camps are: (i) organise Environment based Documentary Festival in the campus; (ii) promote use of bicycles in the campus; (iii) cleaning whole campus to declare it as plastic free; (iv) reduce use of plastics in personal and social life; (v) educate people as much as possible regarding the importance of environment.

REEL EARTH:

Environmental Film Festival of CUSAT



To create awareness on key environmental issues, the Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology, has organised 'Reel Earth: Environmental Film Festival of CUSAT' (Reel Earth: EFFC-2013), a festival of environment related documentary films from 07th to 11th October 2013. Shri. Joshy Mathew, Director of the national award winning film 'Black Forest' and Vice Chairman of the K.R. Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science and Arts inaugurated the festival at Department of Hindi Auditorium at 04.30 pm on 07.10.2013. Honourable Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Paulose Jacob presided over the function. Shri. Baby Mathew Somatheeram, Managing Director, Jeevan T.V and producer of the national award winning film 'Black Forest' was the chief guest. Dr. P.K Baby, Director of the Youth Welfare Department welcomed the gathering. Ms. Phalguni Mathur proposed vote of thanks. The Department has organized the last two editions of Reel Earth: Environmental Film Fest of CUSAT (EFFC) during in the last two years. Shri. Suip Joshy Mathew, Director of the documentary film, 'whatever' and Master Chethan, lead actor in the film 'Black Forest' also participated in the programme. Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Paulose Jacob honoured the guests by handing over the mementos to Shri. Joshy Mathew, Shri. Baby Mathew Somatheeram, Shri. Sudip Joshy and Master Chethan.



Following the inauguration on 07th October, 'BLACK FOREST' which bagged the best film on environment in National Film Awards 2012 was screened at 5.00 P.M at Department of Hindi Auditorium. On 08th October, the film directed by Malayalam couples, Sudip and Geetika, 'WATEVER' was screened at 04.30 P.M. The provoking documentary, 'THE PLASTIC COW' directed by Kunal Vohra was screened at 05.00 P.M on the same day. The dolphin story directed by Louie Psihoyos, 'THE COVE' was screened at 04.30 P.M on 09.10.2013. The 93 minutes long 'FLOW: FOR LOVE OF WATER', directed by Irena Salina was screened at 04.30 P.M on 10.10.2013. The beautiful documentary, 'THE LAST LIONS' directed by Dereck Joubert was screened on 11.10.2013. More than hundred audience watched films every day.





A recent study by the Regional Cancer Centre (RCC) revealed that there has been a 280 percent rise in cancer patients in the past three decades in Kerala. The study further revealed that breast cancer accounted for 11 per cent cases in the past three decades, while thyroid cancer came next among women, while among men, lung cancer accounted for 20 percent of cancer patients, followed by stomach cancer cases. The lack of awareness campaigns and expert tips on self-examination seem to have missed the target audience. Doctors say that patients seek any kind of help only when the disease has reached an advanced stage. In this context, the Department of Youth Welfare in association with Cochin University Women's Welfare Organization has organized an awareness programme, 'I love my mom' for the students and staff of the University at 01.30 PM on 05.12.2013, Thursday. Dr. Thomas Varughese MS, FICS (Onco) FACS, Director Cancer Division, Senior Consultant & Head of Department of Surgical Oncology & Reconstructive Surgery, Renai Medicity Hospital, lead the awareness programme. Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Honourable Vice Chancellor presided over the function. Dr. Paulose Jacob, Professor and Head, Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology; Dr. P.K Baby, Director Students Welfare, Department of Youth Welfare and Dr. K. Ajitha, President, Cochin University Women's Welfare Organization spoke on the occasion.



Regular screening and awareness on cancer is of crucial importance, especially in case of the people who are working in the modern life style. It was not lack of money but lack of awareness

that posed a major impediment for successful treatment of cancer. Doctor Thomas Varughese said. He advised people to follow five whites – sugar, salt, milk, white rice and poratha and add enough coloured vegetables and fruits to the food stuff.



UNIFEST: South Zone Inter University Youth Festival 2013-14

The cultural team from Cochin University of Science and Technology bagged overall runners up trophy in the 29th South Zone Inter University Youth Festival held at Bangalore University, Karnataka from 19th to 23rd December 2013. The team bagged six first prizes, one second prize and four third prizes including event runners up in literary events and fine arts. More than 30 Universities from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh participated in the South Zone Inter University Youth Festival. Details of prizes are given below:



First prizes:

- Elocution: Amrutha Raj, School of Legal Studies, CUSAT.
- Mimicry: Akhiljith A, Department of Instrumentation, CUSAT.
- Collage: Krishna P.S, College of Engineering, Munnar.
- Non Percussion: Harisankar R, Model Engineering College, Thikkakara.
- Accompanied by Venkattaraman R (MG College, Trivandrum)
- Light Vocal Solo: Vishnu Sadanandan, Model Engineering College, Thikkakara.
- Accompanied by Ebin Varghese (Department of Statistics, CUSAT)
- Spot Photography: Arjun C Vinod, Inter National School of Photonics, CUSAT.

Second Prizes:

- Western Vocal Solo: Nikita V, Department of Computer Applications, CUSAT.
- Accompanied by Rahul Roy Mattam (Model Engineering College, Thrikkakara)

Third Prizes:

- Debate: Amrutha Raj (School of Legal Studies) and Kriti Gupta (School of Engineering)
- Percussion: Venkattaraman R (MG College of Engineering, Trivandrum)
- Accompanied by Kalesh V (Toc H Engineering College) and Harisankar R, Model Engineering College, Thikkakara.
- Classical Dance: Mithun M (School of Engineering, CUSAT)
- Accompanied by Kalesh V (Toc H Engineering College), Venkattaraman R (M G College, Trivandrum) and Harisankar R, Model Engineering College, Thikkakara.
- One Act Play: Rabbah T (K.M School of Marine Engineering), Nichal Johnson, Ishack Rahman, Gaurav Singh (School of Engineering), Asadu Ahmadu, Anju C Thomas (School of legal Studies), Vishnu Venugopal (School of Management Studies), Vijisha V (Department of Hindi), Akhil V.H (Department of Electronics).





Green Room IV: Cultivating Creativity



Department of Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology has organized Green Room IV- Cultivating Creativity, an innovative camp for learning various skills through theatre from 17th to 19th January, 2014. The programme aimed at improving the quality of life through empowering students to enhance their creativity by challenging stereotypes and discrimination. 40 students from various departments/ colleges participated in the camp.



The camp began with the introductory session by Dr. P.K Baby, Director Students Welfare and Ms. Ojas S.V at 3 PM on 17.01.2014 at Hindi auditorium. The programme was officially inaugurated by the violin concert by Padmabhushan T N Krishnan, world renowned violist at 06.30 PM on 17.01.2013 at SMS Auditorium. Sri. Thrippunithura Radhakrishnan accompanied on ghatam and Sri. L Vaidhyanathan accompanied on mridangam. The performance provided a new experience to the University and attracted wide applause from the audience. Dr. K Palouse Jacob, Pro-Vice Chancellor in charge of the Vice Chancellor handed over mementos to the guests. Dr. A

Vijayakumar, Head of the Department of Mathematics proposed vote of thanks. The first day ended with camp evaluation and dinner.

The morning session of the second day started with the sessions by Ms. Ojas S.V. Sri. Rajesh Sharma handled sessions in after noon. A short play “velichenna verum mannennayalla; nallennayanu” directed by Rajesh Sharma has performed by the students of SCGVHSS; Aranmula at 06.30 PM on 18.01.2014. Dr. P.K Baby, Director Students Welfare and Ms. Ojas S.V distributed trophies and mementos to the actors and the school. There was an interactive and experience session by the actors and the participants of the camp. The third day marked with innovative mind opening games by Ms. Oajas S.V. The entire programme ended at 7.00 PM on 19.01.2014 with DJ. Mr. Ojas S.V distributed the certificates.

The camp covered various aspects of soft skills, group behaviour, team work, mind control, voice modulation, personality development, verbal and non-verbal communication etc.



All India Inter University Youth Festival

The cultural team from Cochin University of Science and Technology, under the leadership of Department of Youth Welfare, bagged many prizes in the 29th All India Inter University Youth Festival held at Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Haryana from 18th to 22nd February 2014. The team bagged two first prizes, two second prizes, one third prize and one fourth prize and became the top scorer among the Universities from Kerala. More than 70 Universities from all states of the country participated in the All India Inter University Youth Festival. Details of prizes are given below:



First prizes:

- Mimicry: Akhiljith A, Department of Instrumentation, CUSAT.
- Spot Photography: Arjun C Vinod, Inter National School of Photonics, CUSAT.

Second Prize:

- Western Vocal Solo: Nikita V, Department of Computer Applications, CUSAT. Accompanied by Rahul Roy Mattam (Model Engineering College, Thrikkakara)
- Non Percussion: Harisankar R, Model Engineering College, Thikkakara. Accompanied by Venkattaraman R (Sarabhai Institute of Science and Technology, Trivandrum) and Renjith R (Department of Computer Applications, CUSAT).

Third Prize:

- Collage: Krishna P.S, College of Engineering, Munnar.

Fourth Prize

- Elocution: Amrutha Raj, School of Legal Studies, CUSAT.





Walk with a Scholar (WWS) scheme proposes to arrange specialized mentoring programs for students in under Graduate Programs in Arts, Science and Commerce and to provide guidance for their future. The scheme introduces the idea of mentoring and builds on the concept of mentor as a ‘Guide’ and ‘Friend’.

The mentoring scheme for students will be purely voluntary in nature. It will be open for all students entering the first year of the Under Graduate Programme of Study. The Scheme aims at giving necessary orientation to needy students, to prepare them for employment and give them necessary guidance, motivation and necessary mental support to identify appropriate areas for higher study as well as employment.

Students from two colleges will visit our University under the scheme as per the following schedule:

- Govinda Pai Memorial Govt. College, Manjeswaram, Kasragod - 10.30 AM to 11.30 AM / 12.03.2014 / Wednesday
- NMSM Government College Kalpetta, Wayanad - 10.30 AM to 11.30 AM / 14.03.2014 / Friday

Monsoon Madness 3.2 - Chinnar



