

SPEAKERS' ACADEMY- ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

Annual Report (2013-14):

One of the oldest forums of R A Podar College of Commerce and Economics, started off with an Orientation cum Workshop programme for its students. The main purpose of this programme was to teach the students how they can enhance their soft skills and it turned out to be a huge success with a full-packed class and an enthusiastic audience. A mock Debate, Group – Discussion, Elocution and Turncoat Debate were held to introduce the Speakers Academy and Group Discussion Cell activities to the audience.

The second and most important activity of the Speakers Academy routine were the intra – collegiate debates which were held in the months of July – September. This year saw many first – time debaters battle it out in the eliminations round all the way up to the final Bull – Fight round. Thus our second activity was greeted by over 100 registrations from fellow Podarites who wanted to start enhancing their soft skills. In the end the best speakers of Podar College – Mr Shyam Datye, Mr. Silvester Joshua, Ms. Chitra Parameswaran and Mr. Yash Kirkire were awarded.

The third activity of the year organised by Speakers Academy was the Teachers Day Elocution. With contemporary topics on the most respected profession, the students did not fail to surprise the judges with their ideas. Nikita Singh won, and Monal Sanghvi finished a close second!

The fourth activity organized by Speakers Academy for the year was the annual A. D. Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition. This competition is held to select one best speaker to represent Podar college in the next inter-collegiate level of A.D. Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition. With some of the best speakers of our college battling it out for one coveted and prestigious prize, the judges and audience were left spell bound after every performance. In the end, Ms. Varsha Srinivasan emerged as the winner and went on to represent Podar at the zonal level.

‘Rostrum Spectrum’ – a literary inter – collegiate festival this year was co-organized by Speakers Academy and Group Discussion Cell. Rostrum Spectrum hosts two flagship events Debates and Group Discussions. It was indeed a huge success with the participants enjoying every event right from the start to the finish. With 12 colleges participating, it was a great competition with the quality of speakers being at its peak.

Speakers Academy is proud to state that Podarites have not just excelled in the intra – collegiate activities but have also excelled in the inter-collegiate activities. Jeetendra Khilnani and Nithin Shetty were declared runners up of the Youth Festival Debate. Vaibhav Doshi was declared winner of the intercollegiate

elocution competition held at Vivek College. Jeetendra Khilnani was awarded Best Indian Speaker at the 21st International Economics Convention. Varsha Srinivasan went on win the A. D. Shroff Memorial Elocution Competition.

The journey of Speakers Academy through the 2013-2014 academic year saw many brilliant speakers battle it out amongst themselves and many budding speakers recognize and hone their public – speaking skills.