







Celebrating Heritage







Celebrating the 200 years of any epoch-defining institute is a very significant milestone. The journey of Hindu College from 20th January 1817, traversing through Presidency College in 1855 and arriving at Presidency University in 2010, was one that shaped the minds of the youth of Bengal and India. In an age in which religious and moral education was the norm, Hindu College was set up to provide modern education in a secular sense.

The vision of the founders was phenomenal since they dared to set up an institution that was at par with the world's leading centres of learning. Jagadish Chandra Bose, Prafulla Chandra Ray, Meghnad Saha, Satyen Bose and Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis are just some of a long line of remarkable scientists who either studied, taught or carried out pioneering research at Presidency. Social thinkers, historians, freedom fighters and world leaders like Netaji Subhas Bose, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekananda, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, Rajendra Prasad and many others, took their leadership positions from a very young age at this great institution.

To celebrate the institution's 200 years, we hosted the 'Global Education Summit' which focussed on the 'Future of Education' in January 2017. This was followed by a series of lectures, workshops, debates and other public events throughout the year. Teachers and students participated with enthusiasm and energy to broaden their outlook and learning. The members of the Alumni Association of Presidency were generous with their time and support for the celebrations. The job of the administration was made a lot easier by constant guidance and advice from the Honourable Chancellor, members of the Governing Board, the Presidency Mentor Group and other stakeholders.

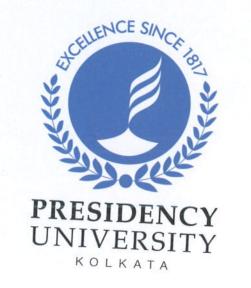
I take this opportunity to thank the Honourable Chief Minister,
Mamata Banerjee for her generous support at all times. I thank the
Honourable Minister in Charge of Higher Education, Partha Chatterjee,
for his unstinting support in ensuring autonomous functioning of this
University. I thank the Department of Higher Education for their constant
guidance, timely grants for restoring the infrastructure, creating new facilities
and for enabling us to invite scholars from all over the world for the Global
Education Summit. I thank the Department of Transport and also the
Public Works Department for their active engagement with the University.

Anima Basak and Anannya Chowdhury donated funds for creating the AK Basak Lecture Theatre and upgrading the Bankim Sabhagriha. An endowment from Sudha Murthy, Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, helped create a Distinguished Chair Professor in Economics. A second contribution from the Infosys Foundation allowed us to renovate a 150 seat Lecture Theatre. Sri Rudra Chatterjee, contributed funds for a Chair Professor in History. Our sincere gratitude to them and all others who contributed to the Vice Chancellor's Fund for Excellence.

This book is our humble attempt to document the journey of an Undergraduate College that transformed into a University and the creation of modern infrastructure while preserving, and even strengthening, its unparalleled heritage. The transformation of the physical and academic infrastructure was a painstaking effort since not a single class was disrupted during the renovations. I thank the students, faculty and support staff who bore with the minor dislocations involved with fortitude. The state-of-the-art infrastructure, glimpses of which you will find in this book is expected to benefit generations of students to come and enable Presidency University to emerge as a leading institution nationally and globally, in pursuit of excellence.

Anuradha Lohia

Vice Chancellor



Governing Board

His Excellency Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi

Chancellor, Presidency University and Governor of West Bengal

Professor Anuradha Lohia

Vice-Chancellor, Presidency University

Professor Bikash Sinha

Eminent Scientist, Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre

Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar

Vice-Chancellor, Netaji Subhas Open University

Professor Sugata Bose

Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs, Harvard University

Professor Malabika Sarkar

Former Vice-Chancellor, Presidency University

Professor Nayanjot Lahiri

Former Dean of Colleges, Delhi University

Professor Rahul Mukherjee

Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata

Professor K Vijay Raghavan

Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology and Professor of NCBS, Bangalore

Professor Rajeeva Karandikar

Director, Chennai Mathematical Institute

Shri Satyabrata Pal, IFS

Former Member of National Human Rights Commission

Dr Rajendra S Shukla

Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal

Professor Tanuja Majumder

Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Presidency University

Professor Arabinda Nayak

Dean, Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences, Presidency University

Professor Gautam Ghosh

Head, Department of Geology, Presidency University

Professor Tanuja Majumder

Head, Department of Hindi, Presidency University

Dr Soumen Mukherjee

Head, Department of History, Presidency University

Dr Debajyoti Konar

Registrar, Presidency University, Secretary of the Governing Board



Mentor Group

Professor Amartya Sen

Advisor to the Chair of the Presidency Mentor Group, Lamont University Professor, Harvard University

Professor Sugata Bose

Chairman of the Presidency Mentor Group, Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs, Harvard University

Professor D Balasubramanian

Director of Research, LV Prasad Eye Institute

Professor Abhijit Banerjee

Ford Foundation International Professor of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Professor Nayanjot Lahiri

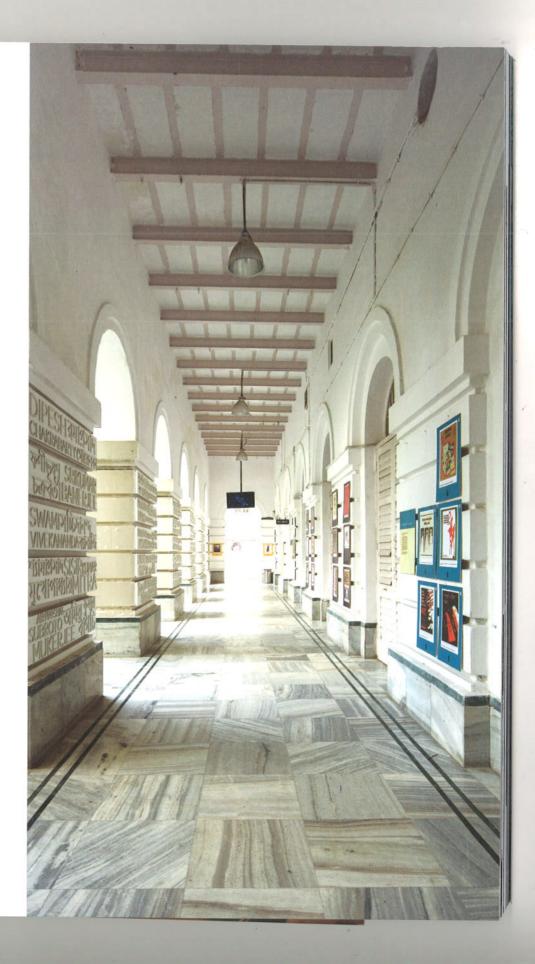
Department of History, Delhi University

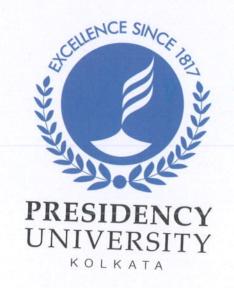
Professor Rahul Mukherjee

Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata

Professor Himadri Pakrashi

Freiburg Professor and Director, International Centre for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability (I-CARES), Washington University





Administration

His Excellency Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi

Chancellor

Anuradha Lohia

Vice-Chancellor vc@presiuniv.ac.in

Debajyoti Konar

Registrar registrar@presiuniv.ac.in

Prithul Chakraborty

Finance Officer fo@presiuniv.ac.in

Nilanjan Dasgupta

Controller of Examinations ndg.geol@presiuniv.ac.in

Arun Kumar Maity

Dean of Students Dean.students@presiuniv.ac.in

Kaustav Kanti Nandy

Development Officer do@presiuniv.ac.in

Debapratim Mishra

Senior Systems Analyst debpratim@presiuniv.ac.in

Dilip K Ghosh

University Consulting Engineer dkg.engineer@presiuniv.ac.in

Anirban Saha

Account Officer, Presidency University ao@presiuniv.ac.in

Sanjib Chatterjee

System Administrator sanjib@presiuniv.ac.in

Sanjib Kumar Deb

DDO, Accounts Officer Presidency College sanjibdeb111@gmail.com

Distinguished and Chair Professors

Swapan K Chakravorty

Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore Distinguished Professor in the Humanities (Literary and Cultural Studies)

Pulak Ghosh

Infosys Foundation Chair Professor of Economics

Rupendra Kumar Chattopadhyay

Paresh Chandra Chatterjee Chair Professor of History



Academic Deans

Tanuja Majumder

Dean, Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences tanuja.hindi@presiuniv.ac.in

Arabinda Nayak

Dean, Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences arabinda.physics@presiuniv.ac.in

Heads of Departments

Sandip Kumar Mandal

Head, Department of Hindi sandip.beng@presiuniv.ac.in

Tanuja Majumder

Head, Department of Hindi tanuja.hindi@presiuniv.ac.in

Sumit Chakrabarti

Head, Department of English sumit.eng@presiuniv.ac.in

Soumen Mukherjee

Head, Department of History soumen.his@presiuniv.ac.in

Barada Laxmi Panda

Head, Department of Philosophy barada.phi@presiuniv.ac.in

Pradip Basu

Head, Department of Political Science pradip.polsc@presiuniv.ac.in

Suhrita Saha

Head, Department of Sociology suhrita.soc@presiuniv.ac.in

Mousumi Dutta

Head, Department of Economics mousumi.econ@presiuniv.ac.in

Sreemati Mukherjee

Head, Department of Performing Arts sreemati.dpa@presiuniv.ac.in

Bijan Das

Head, Department of Chemistry bijan.chem@presiuniv.ac.in

Devashish Sen

 $Head, Department\ of\ Life\ Sciences$ dsen.physiology@presiuniv.ac.in

Gautam Ghosh

Head, Department of Geology gautam.geol@presiuniv.ac.in

Soumendu Chatterjee

Head, Department of Geography soumendu.geog@presiuniv.ac.in

Tapan Saha

Head, Department of Mathematics tapan.maths@presiuniv.ac.in

Barun Raychaudhuri

Head, Department of Physics barun.physics@presiuniv.ac.in

Biswajit Roy

Head, Department of Statistics biswajit.stats@presiuniv.ac.in



Hindu College

The formal opening of classes at the Hindu

1819 College 1824 College receives Government aid

1826 Classes shift to that now houses





1852 Government proposes to open the college to all

The pathsala wing of Hindu College separates, starts as Hindu School

1855

Presidency

College

1857 Calcutta

1858 First BA examinations take place, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee being one of the first

1874 Main Building opens and Nafarchandra Palchaudhuri gifts the



1817

College

campus shifts to Bowbazar from Chitpur

the new building the Sanskrit College and University

communities

University established

two graduates

'turret clock'







The Alma Mater of

- 3 Presidents
- 1 Prime Minister
- 1 Nobel Laureate
- 1 Oscar Winner
- 1 Explorer
- 7 Inventors...



One of the first institutions of higher learning in Asia, Presidency University began as Hindu College in 1817, renamed Presidency College in 1855 and was conferred the status of a university in July 2010.

Centuries are conventional timespans, but they have symbolic resonance.



2011

The first batch of students inducted into Presidency University in the Postgraduate and Undergraduate courses.

The first independent syllabus of Presidency University was formulated. It spelt out major subjects with a choice of Extra Departmental Subjects at the Undergraduate level. The first Examination Regulations were introduced.

2013

Introduction of the CBCS system in Presidency University: We were the first University to implement CBCS in West Bengal.

Introduction of Liberal
Education Policy in Presidency
University at the Undergraduate
level. The conventional
Subsidiary/Pass subjects
mandatorily associated
with Major/Honours subject
were discarded and General
Education (GenEd) was
introduced for the first time in
any university in West Bengal.

First Convocation at which Postgraduate students were conferred Degrees. 2013 (contd)

Revision of the syllabus for all Departments; new examination regulations were implemented, considering the introduction of GenEd courses.

Introduction of PhD rules and Regulations, Formation of Departmental PhD Committee and Faculty Doctoral Committees.

2014

Revision of syllabi of the Departments of Geography and Chemistry.

First RET examination held. The first set of PhD registrations in both Faculties.

Implementation of e-governance and paperless administration protocols. Presidency University is the first amongst the universities of West Bengal to implement this in the field of leave application, pension, promotion and day-to-day administrative issues. Setting up of relevant committees to look into the well being of the Students, through the Dean of Students (Anti-ragging Committee, PUCASH, Students Welfare Committee, Students Foreign Exchange Committee, Student Teacher Committee at the Departmental level).

2014 (contd)

Successful implementation of Online Examination System. Presidency University is the first amongst the universities of West Bengal to implement it. This has considerably sped up the time for result publication, which now is around two weeks from the last notified date of submission of marks through the online system.

Second Campus at Rajarhat, Kolkata, 70% of the work completed. Tentatively expected to be completed by 31st March, 2018.

There has been a remarkable development in the areas of Finance and Accounts over the years.

Successful implementation of different infrastructural and developmental projects for enhancing Teaching-Learning process funded by the State Government.

State Department introduced Faculty Research and Development Fund for the first time in a State Government University in 2013.

Online Leave portal was implemented in 2014.

A total of 21 MoUs signed between Presidency University and eminent International Institutes for Student and Faculty Exchange Programmes.

2014 to 2017

Convocations held in time for each academic session for conferring Undergraduate and Postgraduate degrees.

There is no pending convocation.

2015

The Presidency University signed MoU with

- University of East Anglia, UK 2015 for setting up a centre for critical thinking;
- University of Cambridge,
 2015, faculty exchange initiated;
- · Hiroshima University, Japan 2015, initiated
- University of Gronningen, Netherlands 2014, programme ongoing;
- · Sciences Po, France 2015, ongoing;

Revision and modification of syllabi of the Departments of Economics and Bengali.

Implementation of online resources at the Faculty level, enabling them to apply online for CAS, leave applications and other financial issues.

Officers posts created for Assistant Controller, Accounts Officer, Development Officer, System Administrator, Secretary of Faculty Council of Arts; Secretary Faculty Council of Science and Consulting Engineer.

Successful implementation of credit transfer facilities for foreign students visiting the University from different reputable institutes of different countries. Presidency University students who had been to foreign universities/institutes awarded with the credits they earned in their study abroad through a flexible credit transfer system.

Introduction of PhD course-work.

2016

MoU initiated with

• SOAS, UK for student exchange (signed 2015) (programme initiated in 2016).

Online Student Feedback Form implemented in 2016.

NAAC awards A grade to Presidency University in its first cycle as University on 5th December, 2016.

Successful implementation of accreditation by NAAC, immediately after the successful completion of three years from the first batch of Undergraduate degree.

Setting up of 3rd campus at Kurseong, West Bengal (under progress).

Special Convocation held to confer D.Litt. on Professor Amartya Sen.

Revision and modification of syllabi of the Departments of History, Physics, Mathematics.

Department of Performing Arts set up; 2017 first batch of Undergraduate students inducted.

Unified disciplines of Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Biotechnology, Biochemistry named Department of Biological Sciences in 2013, was renamed Department of Life Sciences. Life Sciences was included in public exams by the intervention of HED.

Introduction of Several GenEds in different phases complying with the needs of the students, following the UGC mandate on liberal education choices.

2016 to 2017 PhD Registrations in different phases.

2017

Presidency University signed MoU with

2017, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
in Singapore for training 30 top civil servants in West Bengal.
Such a collaborative executive programme is the first
of its kind with a state-aided university in West Bengal.

Both Libraries were renovated and the institutional records were digitised in the bicentenary year in 2017.

External Research Advisory Committees for each Department (DRAC) set up in July 2017.

Revision and partial modification of syllabi of the Departments of Mathematics, Physics, Economics, Geology, History, Hindi and Political Science.

Permission granted for an early PhD thesis submission.

http://www.presiuniv.ac.in

The University website is a comprehensive and modern media tool to communicate with all the stakeholders and its associates. The website hosts digital banners highlighting the activities and achievements of the University.

Presidency University has publicly notified different time lines for rendering different public services and published the same on its official website. Over the years, Presidency University has been the fastest amongst the universities in West Bengal to deliver public services within the stipulated time lines.









Bicentenary Celebrations: Global Education Summit

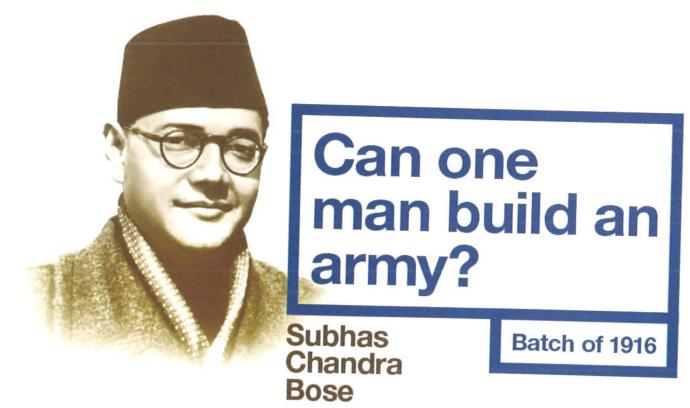
One of the first institutions of higher learning in Asia, Presidency University began as Hindu College (founded 1817), renamed Presidency College in 1855 and was conferred the status of a University in July 2010.

The institution has an outstanding tradition of excellence not only in academics, but also in diverse fields of vibrant intellectual activity. It has been the alma mater of great men and women who have helped transform the nation and the world, such as Jagadish Chandra Bose, Prafulla Chandra Ray, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Amartya Sen.

The institution, amongst whose alumni were—a President of India (Dr Rajendra Prasad), a Prime Minister of Pakistan (Muhammad Ali of Bogra) and a President of Bangladesh (Abu Sayeed Chowdhury)—today has a challenging past to live up to.

Through a new concerted civic initiative, Presidency University is now ready to play a role in the global transformation of university education in the 21st century. The institution represents a high point in the aspiration and implementation of higher learning.





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Inspiring life-changing questions since 1817





20C

গাছ কি বোঝে সুখ-দুঃখ?

জগদীশ চন্দ্ৰ বোস ১৮৭৫-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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সমাজের ভাইটাল স্ট্যাটিস্টিক্স কী?

পি. সি. মহলানোবিস

১৯১২-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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20C

ফোটোন কি দেখা যায় নতুন আলোয়?

সত্যেন্দ্রনাথ বোস

১৯১৩-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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Global Education Summit

What is the next leap in education?
Will smart devices replace brick and mortar classrooms?
What is the future of the natural sciences, mathematics, social sciences and the humanities?
Where are we heading intellectually?

Experts from various academic backgrounds discussed, talked and examined the future of higher studies and shared valuable insights regarding the future of various disciplines.

Our Global Education Summit led to a vision for the future in higher education, natural and social sciences, mathematics, languages and the humanities. At the same time, it was established why education in Bengal led the nation and will still lead in the future.

Speakers

5th January, 2017



Dipak Banerjee Memorial Lecture

Professor Jean Tirole

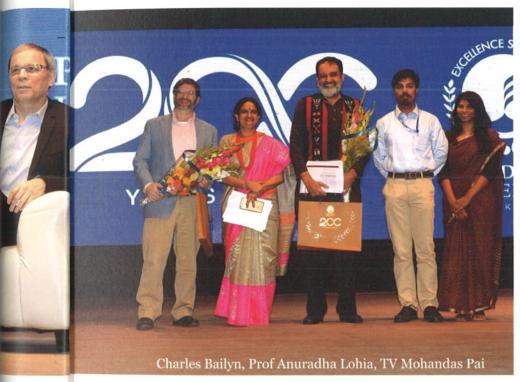
Chairperson, Board of the Jean-Jacques Laffont Foundation at the Toulouse School of Economics, Toulouse 1 University Capitole, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, 2014

Moral Reasoning, Markets and Organizations

Chair: Amartya Sen

Thomas W Lamont, Professor of Economics and Philosophy, Harvard University, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, 1998

6th January, 2017: The Future of Higher Education



Session I

Charles Bailyn

A Bartlett Giametti Professor of Astronomy and Physics, Yale University Science within the Liberal Arts: Convergence and Consilience

TV Mohandas Pai

Chairperson, Manipal Global Education
The Future of Education In India

Chair: Prof Anuradha Lohia Vice-Chancellor, Presidency University



Session II

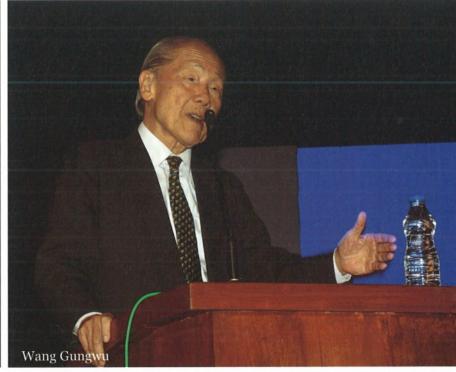
Animesh Ray

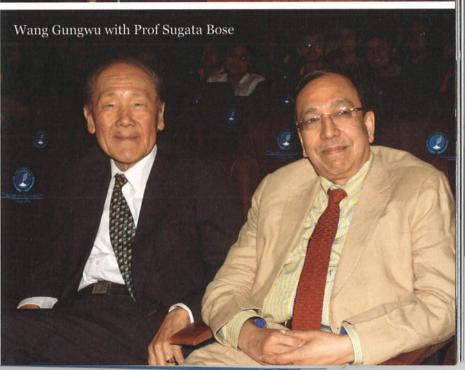
Professor of Computational and Molecular Biology, Keck Graduate Institute, CalTech The Impact of Society on Science through the Lens of Systems Biology

Wang Gungwu

University Professor, National University of Singapore Cultural Transfers in History

Chair: Prof Sugata Bose Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs, Harvard University, USA







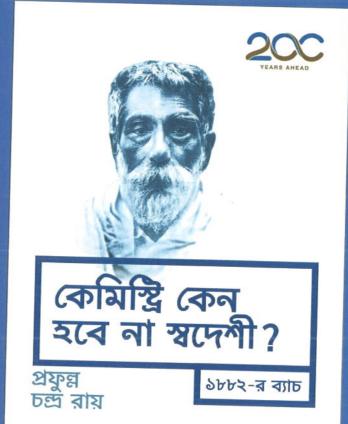
বেদ-বাক্য কি পৌছবে পাশ্চাত্য হৃদয়ে?

নরেন্দ্রনাথ দত্ত ১৮৮১-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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9th January, 2017
The Future of the Sciences
and the Humanities: Seeking
Complexity

Session I

Vivek Kumar

Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Government of West Bengal The Changing Contours of Higher Education

D Balasubramanian

Former President, Indian Academy of Sciences Science and Humanities: The Twain is Beginning to Meet

Parthapratim Mazumder

Former Director, National Institute
of Bio-Medical Genomics
The Walls of Classrooms are Developing
Cracks: The Future Appears Bright

Chair: Prof Animesh Ray Professor of Computational and Molecular Biology, Keck Graduate Institute, CalTech

Session II

David Richardson

Molecular Ecologist, Vice-Chancellor, University of East Anglia The Future is with Our Students: Developing an Entrepreneurial University Around Science and the Humanities

Mammen Chandy

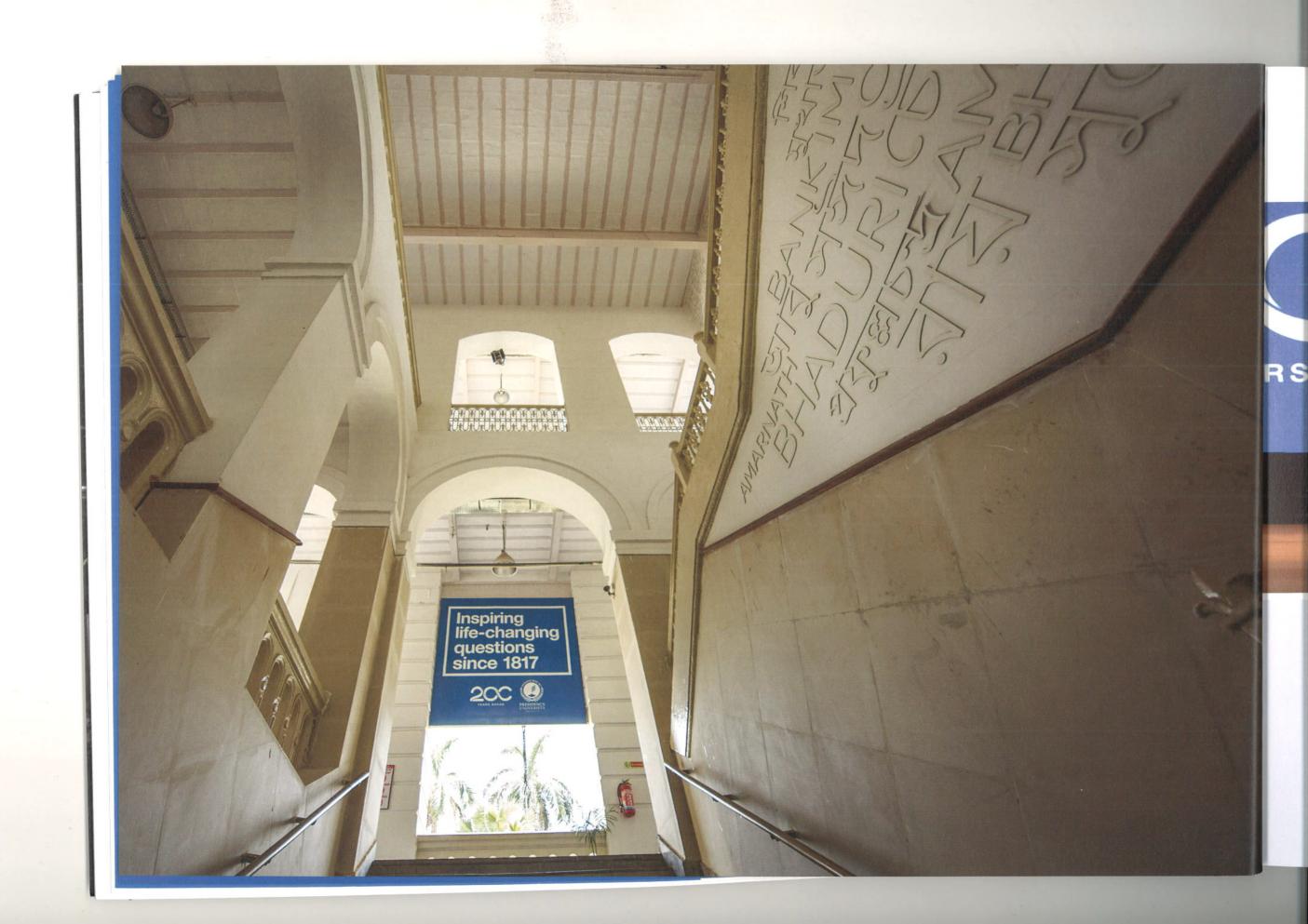
Clinical Haematologist, Director, Tata Medical Centre, Kolkata Making Medical Education Relevant to Challenges of Tomorrow

Mriganka Sur

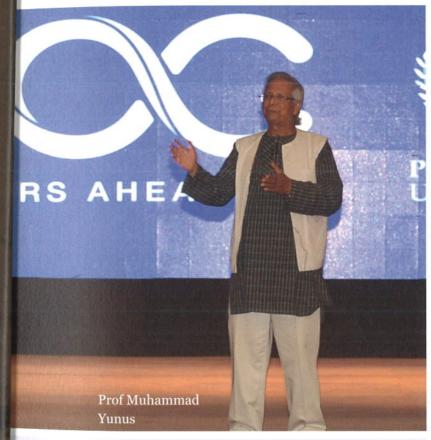
Newton Professor of Neuroscience, Director, Simons Centre for the Social Brain, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA Brains, Minds and Society

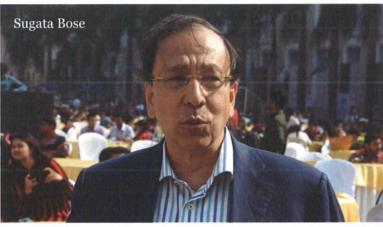
Chair: Prof D Balasubramanian Former President, Indian Academy of Sciences



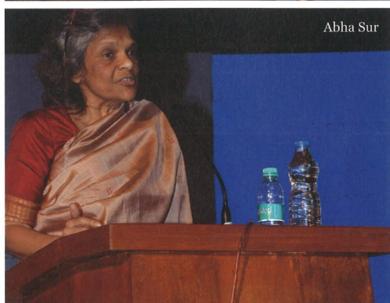


10th January, 2017: The Future of the Sciences and the Humanities: Seeking Complexity









Session II

Sugata Bose

MP, Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs, Harvard University, Chair, Presidency Mentor Group Three Moments in Global Higher Education: 1810s, 1910s and 2010s

Sukanta Chaudhuri

Professor Emeritus, Department of English, Jadavpur University Harnessing the Humanities

Abha Sur

Program in Women and Gender Studies, MIT Science in Context: Lessons from History

Sahotra Sarkar

Professor of Philosophy, University of Texas at Austin, USA
Post-genome: Philosophy and Biology
for the 21st Century

Chair: Prof Parthapratim Mazumder Former Director, National Institute of Bio-Medical Genomics

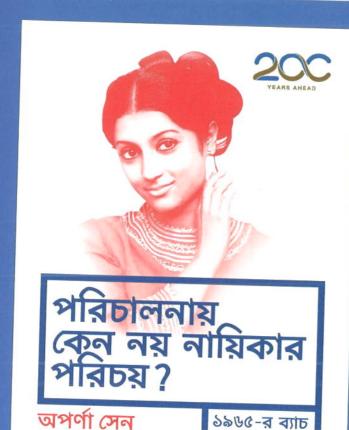


Professor Muhammad Yunus

Nobel Peace Prize, 2006 Redesigning Economics to Redesign the World

Chair: Prof Anuradha Lohia Vice-Chancellor, Presidency University



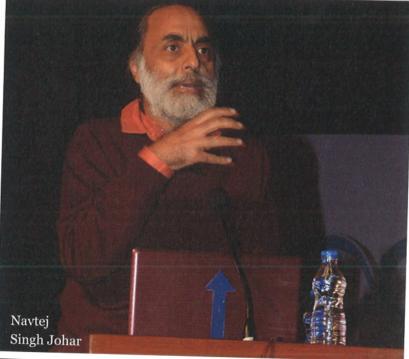


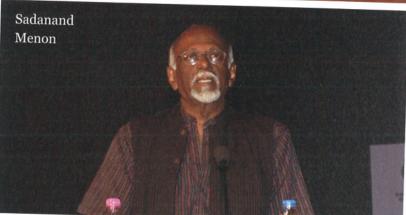
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১৯৬৫-র ব্যাচ



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11th January, 2017, **Derozio Hall**

The Future of the Sciences and the **Humanities: Seeking Complexity**

Session I

Amiya Banerjee

Department of Virology, Cleveland Clinic, USA **Combating Viral Diseases**

Navtej Singh Johar

Bharatnatyam Exponent and Choreographer Yoga and Classical Dance: The Volatility of Delicate Narratives

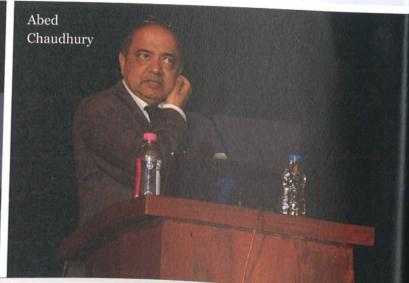
Sadanand Menon

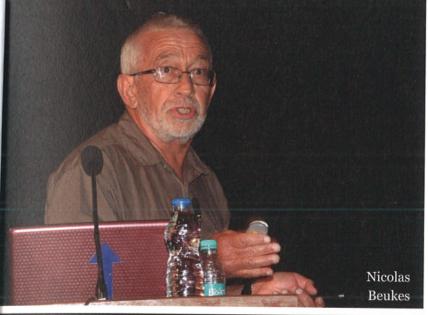
Cultural Journalist, Teacher, Designer, Photographer, Author Untitled Lecture on Art and Higher Education

Abed Chaudhury

Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO Division of Plant Industry, Canberra From Crop Domestication to Geo-engineering: User-led Innovation in **Human Societies**

Chair: Prof Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay Vice-Chancellor, Amity University









Session II

Nicolas Beukes

Professor of Geology, University of Johannesburg, Draper Medal 2002 A Holistic Approach to Earth and Planetary

A Holistic Approach to Earth and Planetar Science Teaching into the Future

Dipak Gupta

Distinguished Professor of Political Science, San Diego State University Mixing Discipline for Forecasting with Social Media: The Case of Civil Strife

Carlos Rosiere

Professor of Geology, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte Challenges in Teaching and Researching in Geology: A Choice of Career Between Geoscientist and Geoprofessional

Chair: Prof Tapas Bhattacharya Geology Department, Calcutta University



PEARS AHEAD

রামায়ণ কেমন হতো সীতার ভাষায়?

নবনীতা দেব সেন

Dipak

Gupta

১৯৫৬-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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13th January, 2017: Arthatantra: Economics Festival





Session I

Pranab Bardhan

Professor of Graduate School, Department of Economics, University of California at Berkeley If Poverty is Declining, Should We Worry About Rising Inequality

Amit Bhaduri

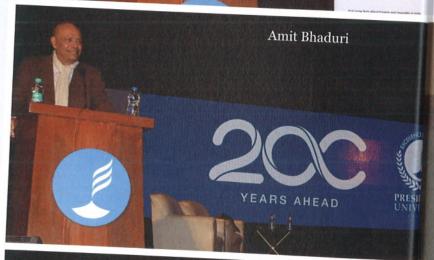
Professor Emeritus of Economics, JNU What has Globalization Taught Us About Economic Theory?

Dr NR Prabhala

Robert H Smith School of Business, University of Maryland USA Policy, Politics and Finance in India

Chair: Prof Abhirup Sarkar *Economics Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta*









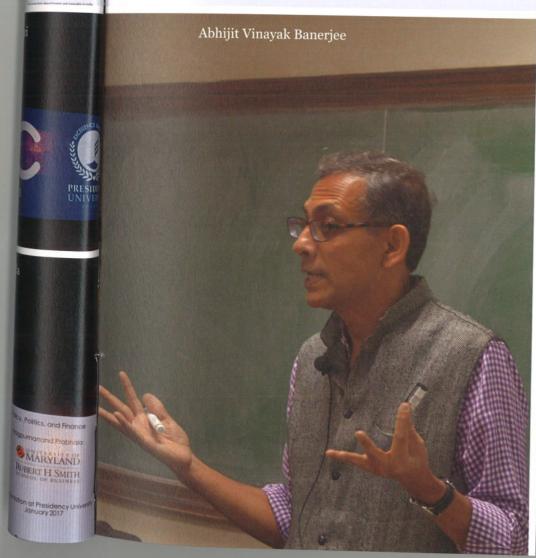
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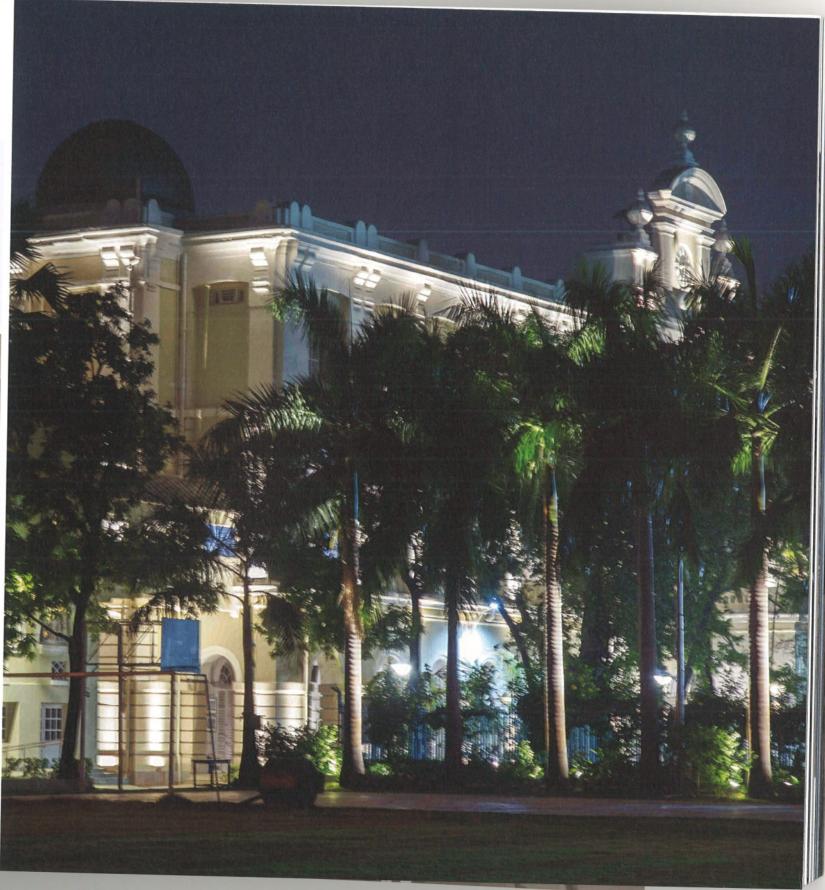
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Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee Issues in Economic Theory





16th January, 2017: Global Education Summit: The Future of Languages

Session I

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
University Professor in the Humanities, Columbia
University, Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy 2012
What is It to be a University

Chair: Prof Swapan Chakravorty Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore Distinguished Chair in the Humanities, Presidency University

Session II

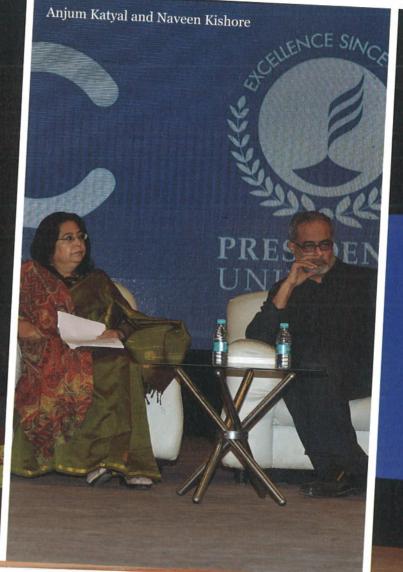
Remembering Mahashweta Devi Jnanpith Puraskar 1996, Ramon Magsasay Award 1997 Nabaneeta Dev Sen, Anjum Katyal, Gayatri Spivak, Naveen Kishore, in collaboration with Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival

Film on Mahasweta Devi

Nabaneeta Deb Sen

Poet and Author, Former Professor of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University







Session III

Amit Chaudhuri

Novelist and Professor of Contemporary Literature, University of East Anglia The Problem of Modernity

Swapan Chakravorty
Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore Distinguished Chair
in the Humanities, Presidency University
Facts, Finance and Fiction: Literary Studies and Higher Education

Chair: Probal Das Gupta Professor of Applied Linguistics, Indian Statistical Institute, President, Akademio de Esperanto

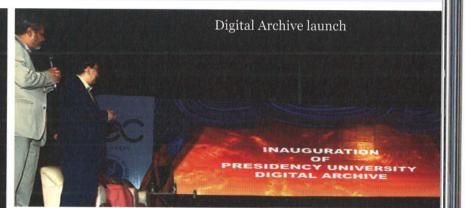
Launches

The Institutional Digital Archive

Release of the Commemorative Volume of Presidency University for the bicentenary celebrations











17th January, 2017

Session I

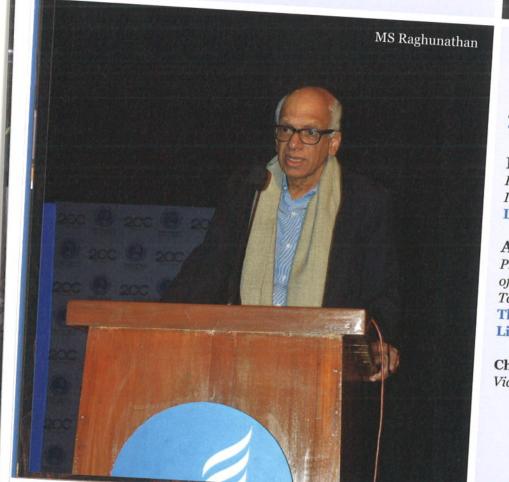
MS Raghunathan

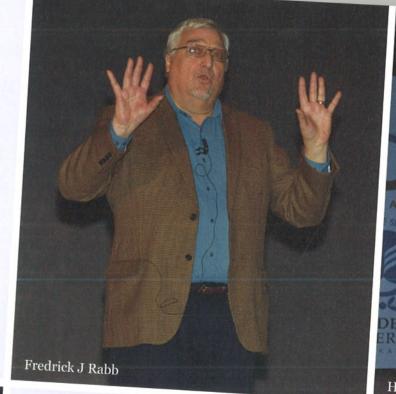
Head National Centre for Mathematics, IIT Mumbai India's Future in the World of Mathematics

Frederick J Raab

Head, LIGO Hanford Observator, California Institute of Technology, USA LIGO-India: International Collaboration Coming to India to Help Explore the Universe

Chair: Prof Somak Raychaudhury Director, Inter-University, Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune







HS Shivaprakash

Poet and Playwright, Professor of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University The Place of Poetry in Future Education

Probal Das Gupta

Professor of Applied Linguistics, Indian Statistical Institute, President, Akademio de Esperanto Little Languages, Big Futures

Ananda Lal

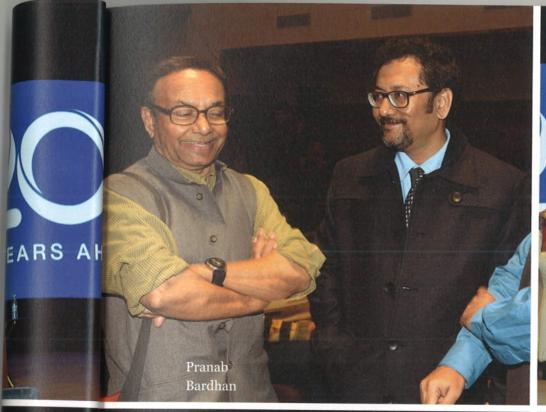
Professor and Former Coordinator, UGC Centre of Advanced Study in English, Project Head, Tagore Cultural Centre, Jadavpur University The Classic Indian 'Stepmotherly' Treatment, Literature and Arts Education in Future

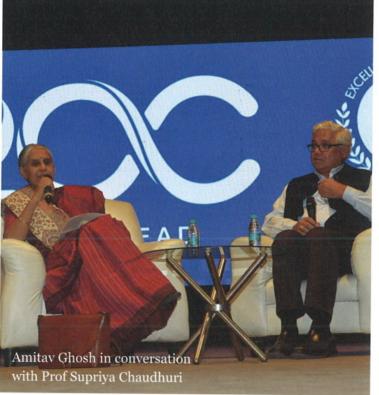
Chair: Suranjan Das Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University



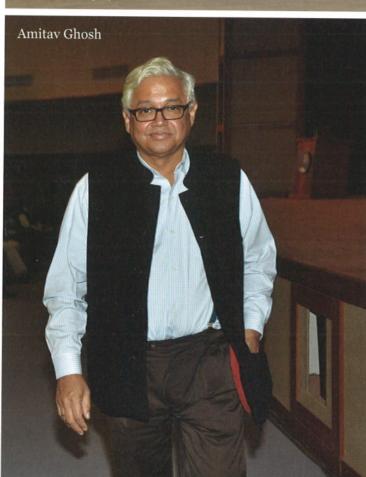












18th January, 2017: Global Education Summit: Future of Higher Education

Session I

Pranab Bardhan

Professor of Graduate School, Department of Economics, University of California at Berkeley Higher Education in India: Envisioning a Complete Overhaul

Nayanjot Lahiri

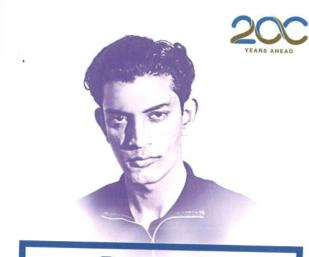
Professor of History, Ashoka University, Member, Presidency Mentor Group Archaeological Heritage at the Crossroads of Politics and People: Higher Education As a Way Forward

Chair: Prof William Cushley *University of Glasgow, UK*

Session II

Amitav Ghosh

in conversation with Prof Supriya Chaudhuri



ভারতীয় চলচ্চিত্র কি বিশ্ববাসীর হৃদয় স্পর্শ করবে

সত্যজিৎ রায়

১৯৩৯-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে



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19th January, 2017

Session I

Virendra Chauhan

Chairman, NAAC
Social Responsibility of the Sciences

Michael Hutt

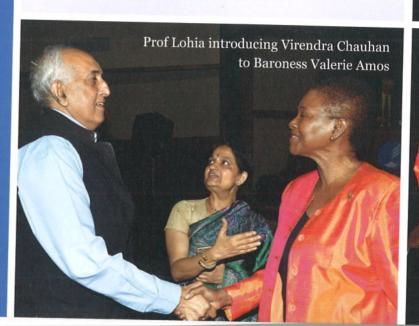
Professor of Nepalese and Himalayan Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London Should We All Speak the Same Language

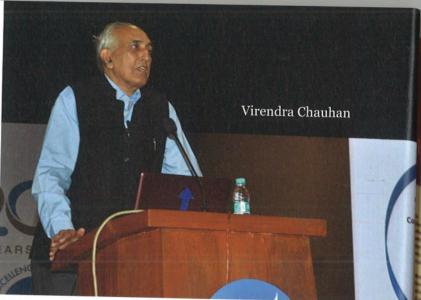
Chair: Prof Anuradha Lohia Vice-Chancellor, Presidency University

Session II

Baroness Valerie Amos

Chairperson, SOAS, University of London, former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, United Nations Organisation
Globalisation, Anti-globalisation, and Retreat into Nationalism: A Response from Language-based Area Studies











6th January, 2017: Ceremonial Inauguration at Prinsep Ghat





Inaugural Speech of Mayuree Mukherjee, Undergraduate student of the Department of Life Science

Good evening everyone. It is an honour to welcome you all to the auspicious occasion of Presidency College, now Presidency University, turning 200 years young.

No introduction is ever enough to explain what Presidency means to all of us. Do I describe it as the only living organism thriving even after 200 years? Or as the human network connecting the greatest minds of the world much before someone thought of Facebook? I could call it the embodiment of the argumentative Indian or the prelude to the idea of a nation. I could call it the loving mother who nurtured talent that shaped the world as we know it, or the strict father who taught us what to learn, how to learn and to never stop learning.

But for me, Presidency is poetry. It is so because despite social imbalance and differences of opinion, I have found togetherness and tolerance. It has taught us that even though life is made up of differences, we can still thrive. The beauty of Presidency lies in the diversity of its people and the social trust in its atmosphere. Therefore, the celebration of our differences makes us unique.

This uniqueness is embedded in our walls in so many ways. Whether through the freedom of every student to have their opinion heard, or through the education we receive designed for us to transcend disciplinary boundaries, it is at Presidency where I learnt physics with the help of art and biology with the integration of sociology. Presidency gifted us holistic liberal development of both the mind and of ourselves.

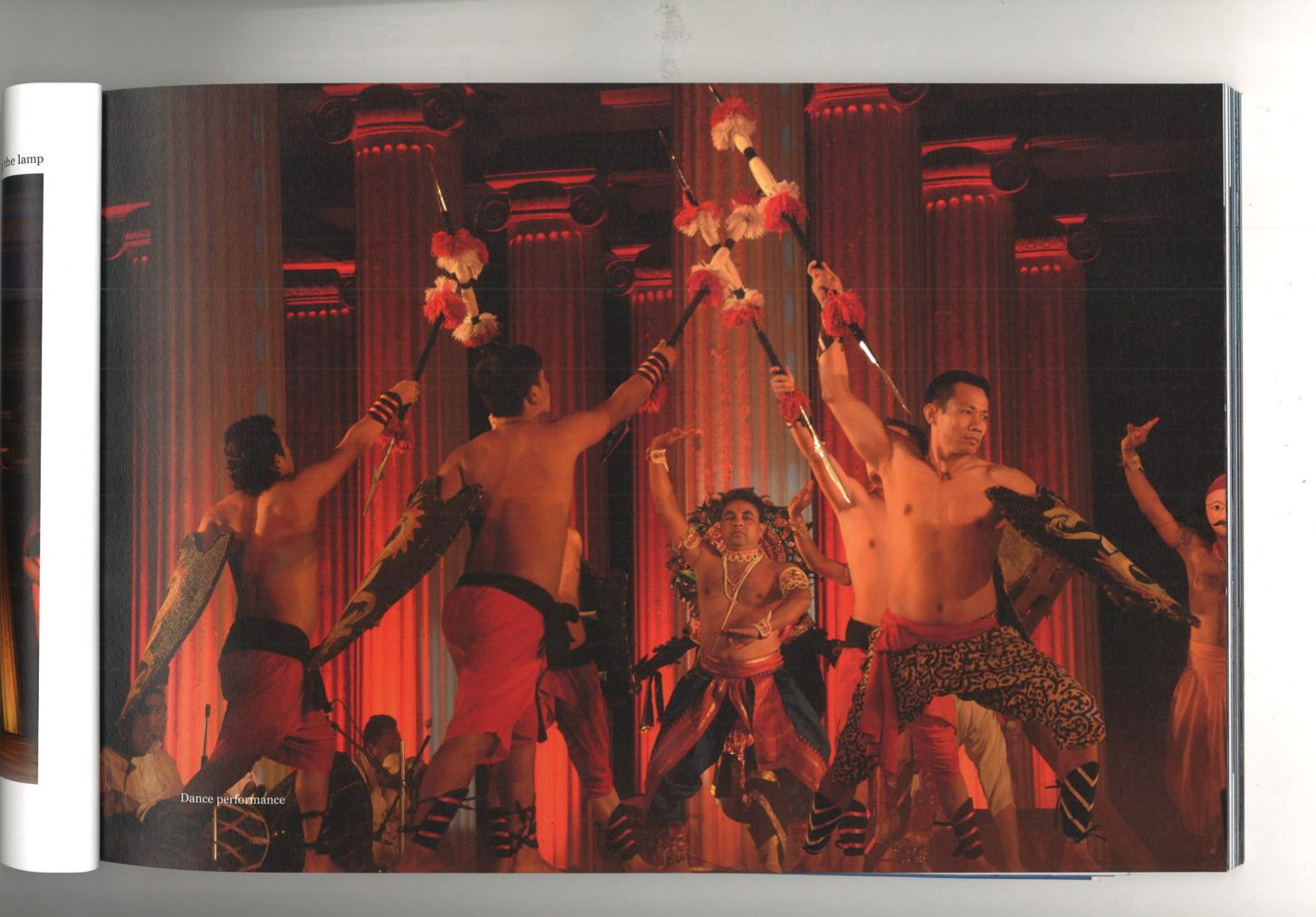
But most importantly, our uniqueness is embedded in our legacy.

And every day when I walk through the campus, I remember the legacy left by Raja Ram Mohun Roy and David Hare who dreamt of excellence in education, the legacy left by Satyen Bose who viewed Presidency as the particle that changed physics, or PC Mahalanobis who needed Presidency to define the statistics of this country or Netaji who proposed that blood be exchanged for freedom and many more who have been inspiring life changing questions since the inception of Presidency.

But while we have inherited this enormously celebrated legacy, we are acutely conscious of the legacy we must carry forward. With this aspiration, I speak for all my fellow Presidencians that we are ready to carry forward the challenge and glory of our beloved alma mater into its third century.

Thank you.





10th January, 2017

Lucknow in Letters: Endeavours, Achievements and Tragedies

Reading by Saman Habib and Sanjay Mattoo

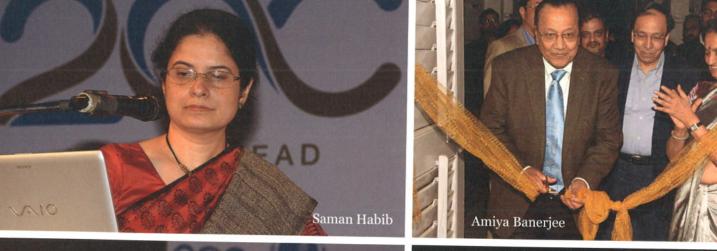
11th January, 2017

Aroon Kumar Basak **Memorial Auditorium**

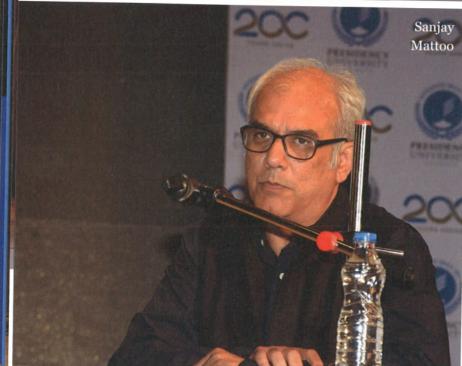
Inaugurated by

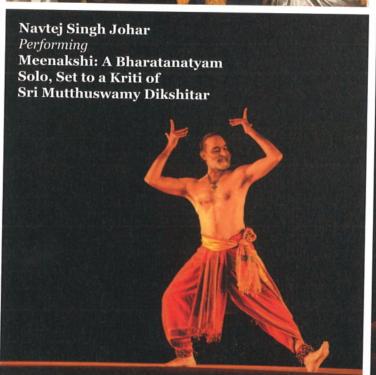
Anima Basak and Amiya Banerjee

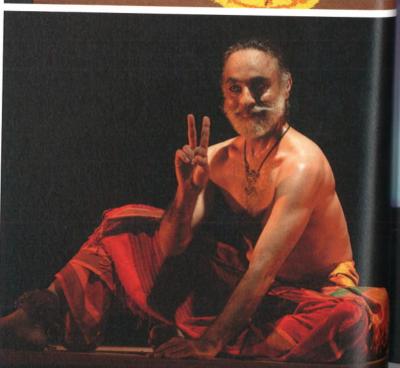






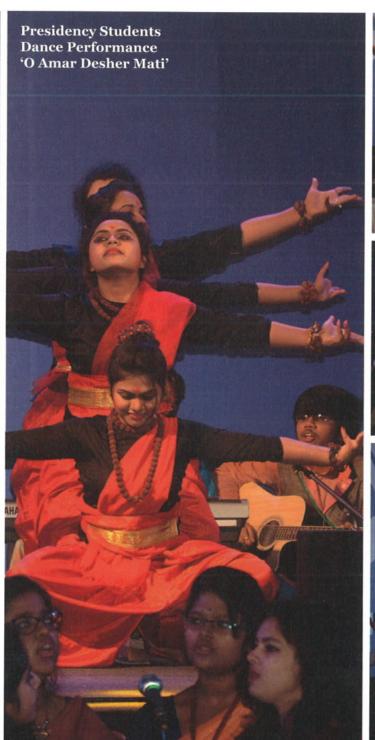






12th January, **201**7



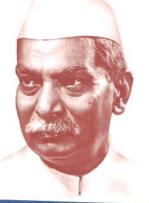












নতুন দেশের ভবিষ্যৎ কী?

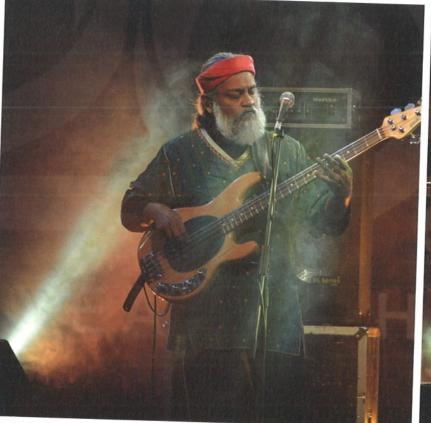
রাজেন্দ্র প্রসাদ

১৯০৫-র ব্যাচ

যুগান্তকারী প্রশ্ন, ১৮১৭ থেকে

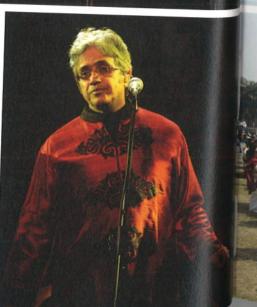


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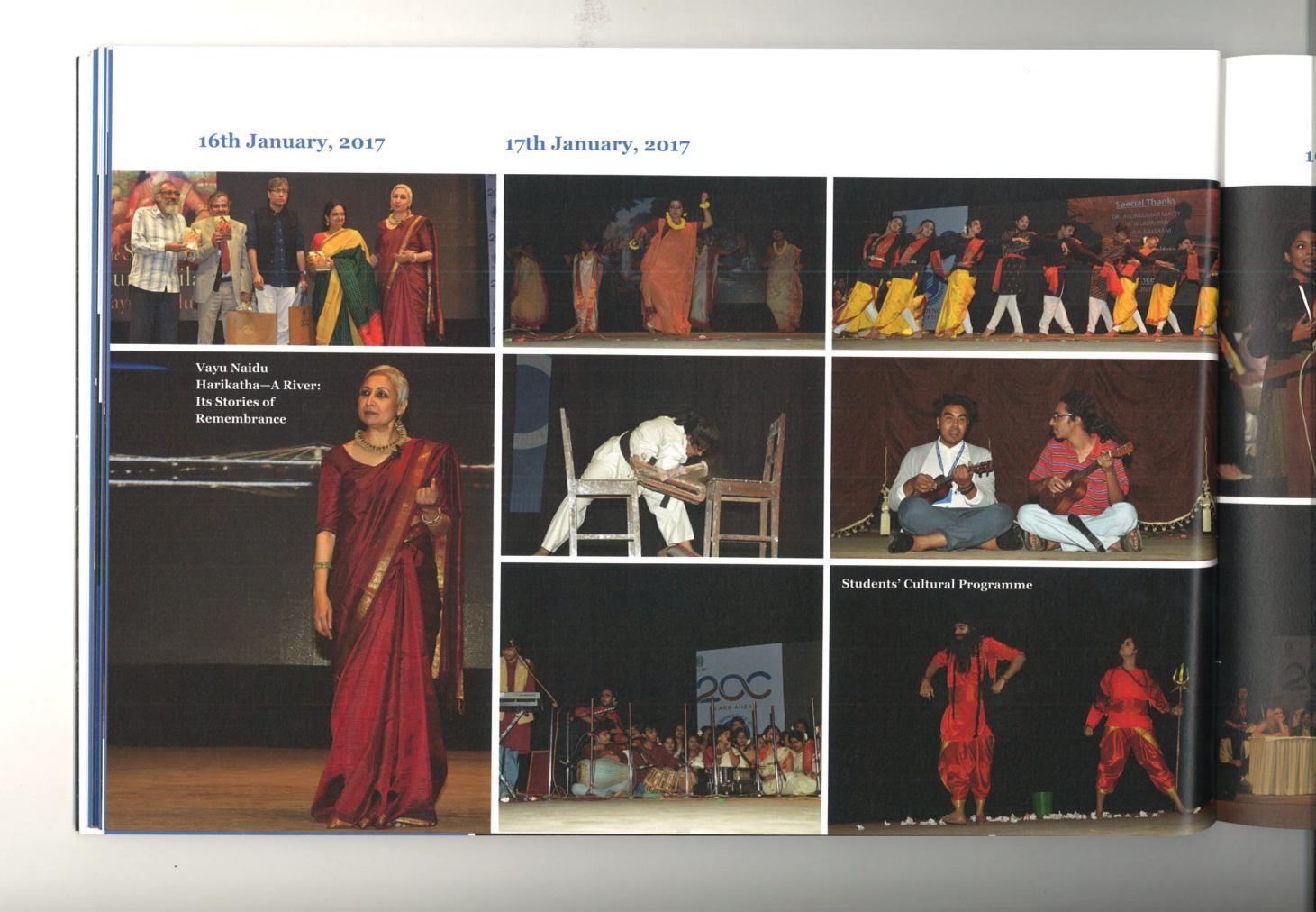




















200th Founders' Day

On 20th January, 2017 the Alumni Association organised the Founders' Day Programme for the bicentenary year, inviting Dr Manmohan Singh, Former Prime Minister of India and Sri Pranab Mukherjee, Former President of India.









Rebuilding Heritage

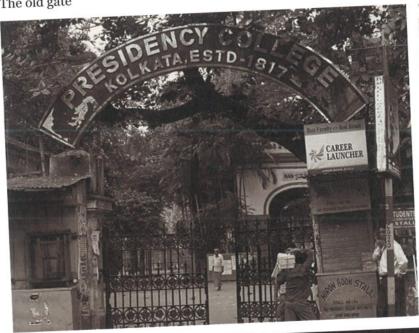
The Main Gate of Presidency has always been a landmark on College Street. Dominating the bookstalls that cluster on either side. The old gate, while evoking nostalgia for the institution's 200 year old heritage, posed problems in the face of modern safety concerns like fire hazards. A wider gate was required which would allow the easy passage of fire engines.

The new Memorial Gate was erected as a celebration of Presidency's bicentenary, symbolising the elevation of Presidency College to University status. The installation is formed of two large central gates, suitable for admitting vehicles.

The wall on one side bears the University's name and motto. So that heritage remains untouched, the old gate has been shifted to the Baker Laboratories side.

The old gate







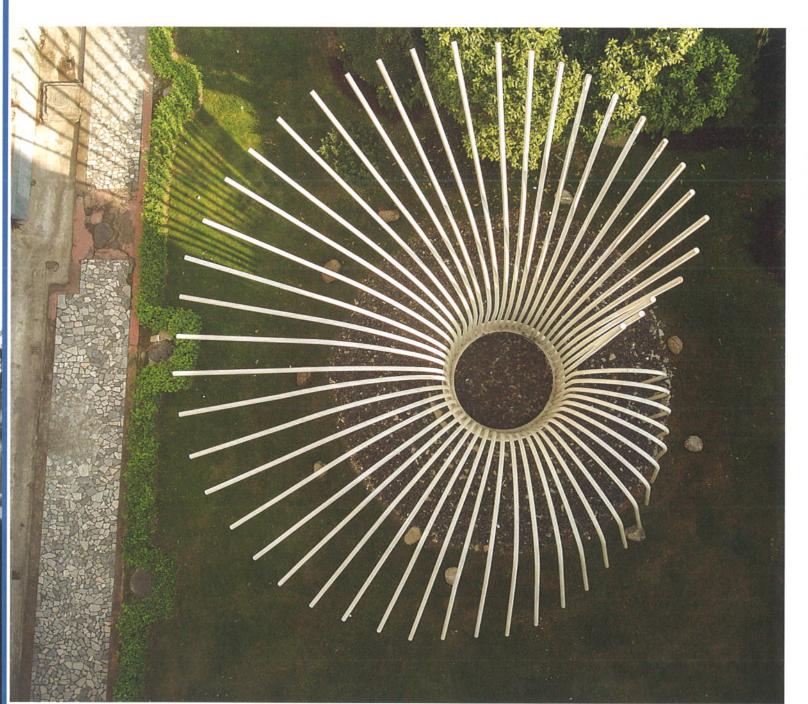


r Laboratories Bird's eye view of the Main Building

The Main Building

The physical infrastructure of the University provides an important platform for all academic endeavours as it represents far more than just walls and a roof. The working environment of Presidency University seeks to offer the appropriate facilities and equipment for vital teaching and research, whilst also providing the opportunity for engagement, interaction and inspiration. The University's major cultural heritage is the University itself, not the buildings or landscape; that is, its ethos to educate, carry out research and engage with the community.

The University represents a pinnacle in the aspiration and implementation of higher learning. And it is a masterwork in progress, as all living institutions are. By rebuilding our heritage at Presidency, we have laid the foundation as the University enters its third century.



The Pinnacle Arch

Come out into the broad open light of day, come out from the little narrow paths, for how can the infinite soul rest content to live and die in small ruts? Come out into the universe of Light. Everything in the universe is yours, stretch out your arms and embrace it with love. If you ever felt you wanted to do that, you have felt God. Swami Vivekananda

Presidency, as a University, has a long history of encouraging freedom of choice and imparting finesse in the human attributes of individuals. The Pinnacle Arch is a representation of the journey of an individual and the institute, from a sheltered environment to the collective growth and aspiration towards greatness. The development of the installation has been inspired from the rich architectural heritage of the campus, from the predominant use of arches of gradually varying sizes, maintaining a rhythm and proportion. This integration of external characteristics with the internal spaces has produced the continually rising and dynamic system of the pinnacle arch, while maintaining an internal pathway which transforms from a sheltered area towards the open sky. The form has been generated to showcase the process of imparting knowledge through science and philosophy, in order to inculcate qualities of excellence, selflessness, daring and risk-taking ability, leading to enlightenment of the individual and their ability to provide for the society. This journey is depicted as a path through a sheltered arch, which has been conceived as a circle of continuity, while rising gradually towards a state of enlightenment, a pinnacle, representing freedom and infinity. The installation portrays self-sufficiency in the highest form, from attaining stability in the arch form, to providing stability as the pinnacle.

The new look ald

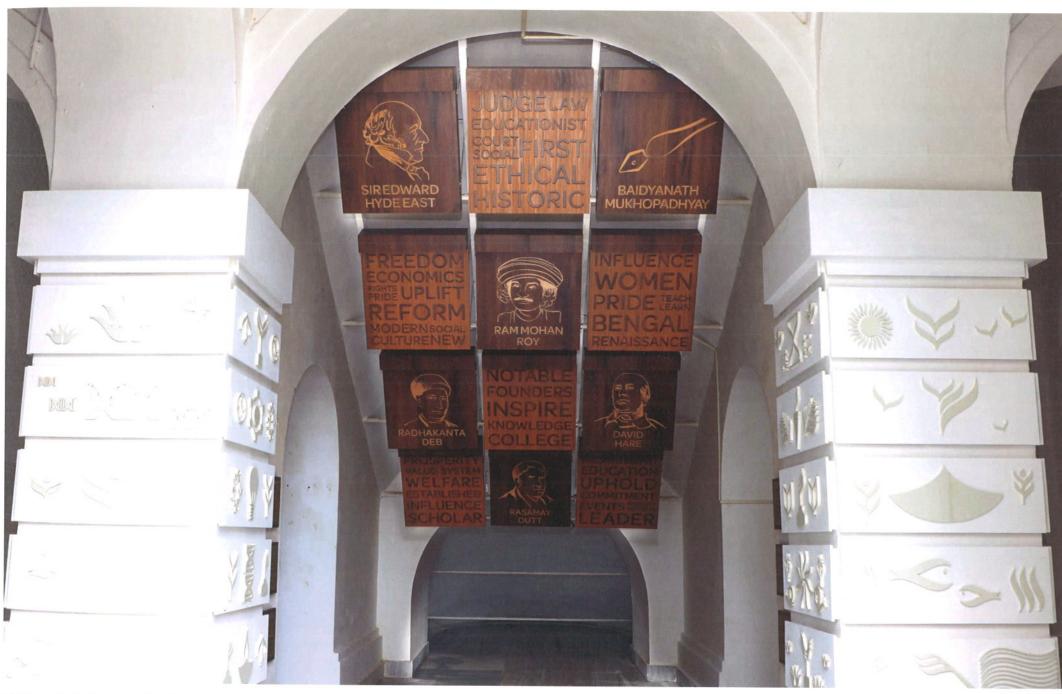
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The new look alcoves under the staircase

Portico before renovation...

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... and after





Ground floor corridor after renovation

after



The stairway to the second floor of the Main Building before renovation



The stairway to the second floor of the Main Building after renovation



First floor corridor after renovation



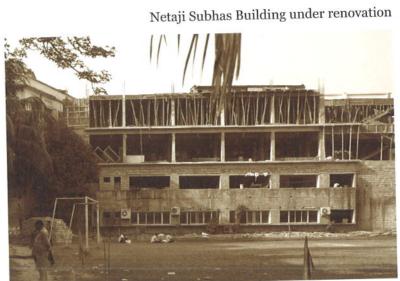
First floor corridor before renovation

The Netaji Subhas Building

The newest building, the Netaji
Subhas Building is located
to the west of the Main Building.
It was built in 1990 and was dedicated
to the holding of Postgraduate classes.
As it is relatively new, the Netaji
Subhas Building allowed greater
refurbishment and addition
to the structure. False ceilings,
widened corridor spaces have added
in major ways to the building's
presence and the comfort of those
who study there.









The refurbished Netaji Subhas Building

Baker Laboratories netting, before renovation The renovated facade, where a lift block and an extra floor have been added

Baker Laboratories

The 100-year-old Baker Laboratories was set up by Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose, amongst others, in 1913. It was named after Edward Norman Baker, the then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and the Departments of Physics, Physiology, Botany and Geology were transferred to the new establishment. One of the biggest rooms in the Baker Laboratories accommodated the Science Library (the Peake Library, named after Professor CW Peake). Commerce classes were started in 1903. The Baker Laboratories Building was in advance of its times then and was noted throughout the country.

To maintain the building's dominance in the sciences, it has been renovated to host modern research and teaching facilities. It now houses the Mathematics Department, which was located on top of the sweepers' quarters earlier. The building boasts of a new 'lightweight' top floor, built as an extension to the old two-storey structure. Mezzanine floors have increased the floor space of the building manifold.

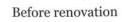


The damaged ceiling of Physics Laboratory



Physics Laboratory, after renovation









Damaged ceiling and floor before renovation

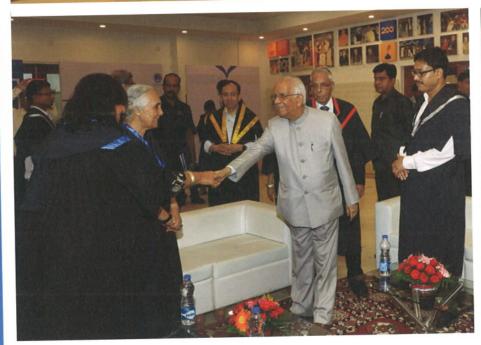


Derozio Building

The Derozio Building, named after the young rebel poet who radicalised a group of young students in the 1820s, is one of the later buildings on the campus. The building was constructed during the centenary celebrations under the stewardship of the then Principal, Professor JC Sengupta. Disrepair seemed to have blanked out large chunks of these buildings from vision; but new parts have come into being in the structure, which are now spruced up with a fresh coat of paint. The new shade, 'ivory matte', makes the old structure glow in the afternoon light.

The spacious, renovated Derozio Hall with its state-of-the-art acoustics is a matter of pride. This will be the venue for seminars of international importance peopled by the world's leading scholars.











Derozio Hall renovated

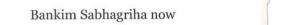
Auditoriums

Built to international standards, the auditoriums reflect, like everything else at the University, the commitment to provide students with the best facilities. Equipped with full-fledged audio-visual equipment and a digital projection system, the auditoriums are now truly state-of-the-art, including a Black Box Theatre. Upgradation began with the iconic Derozio Hall, which is Presidency's Main Auditorium.

To this, have been added several others, all of which were seen in use during the bicentenary celebrations and seminars.



Bankim Sabhagriha then



The refurbishe



The refurbished PC Mahalanobis lecture theatre



Renovation in progress

Presidency College classrooms have been famous every since the institution opened its doors on College Street. The sturdy, wooden benches and tables carried memories of illustrious alumni and alumnae. Most of Bengal's historic names attended classes at one time or the other in the strictly spartan atmosphere that was characteristic of the age.

Today the classrooms are designed to be compact so as to stimulate and encourage close interaction between students and faculty. They are spacious and well-ventilated, encouraging the students to study in the conducive environment. e-classroom facilities have also been included to take Presidency into the new digital age.

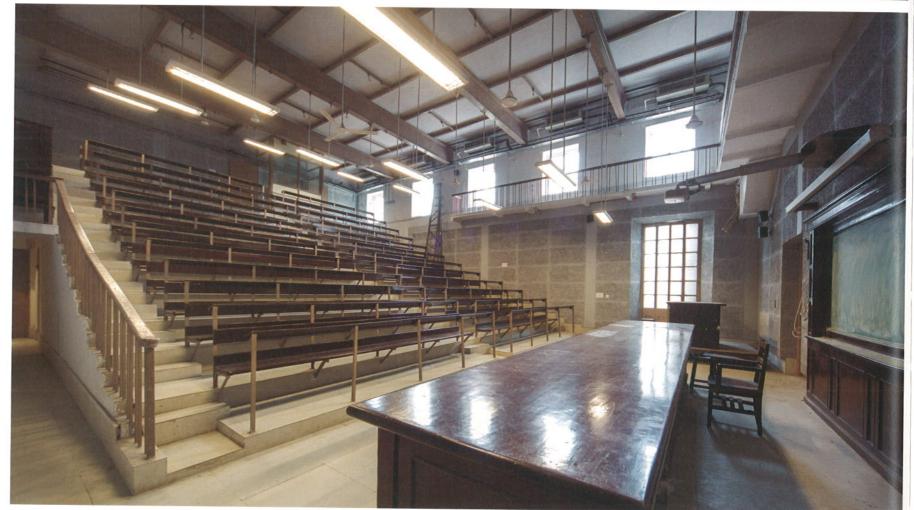
Sound-proofing has been carried out in some of the rooms to allow students to follow lectures with greater ease. In fact, Presidency is the first institution in West Bengal to boast of the advantages of sound-proofing.

Classroom, before renovation

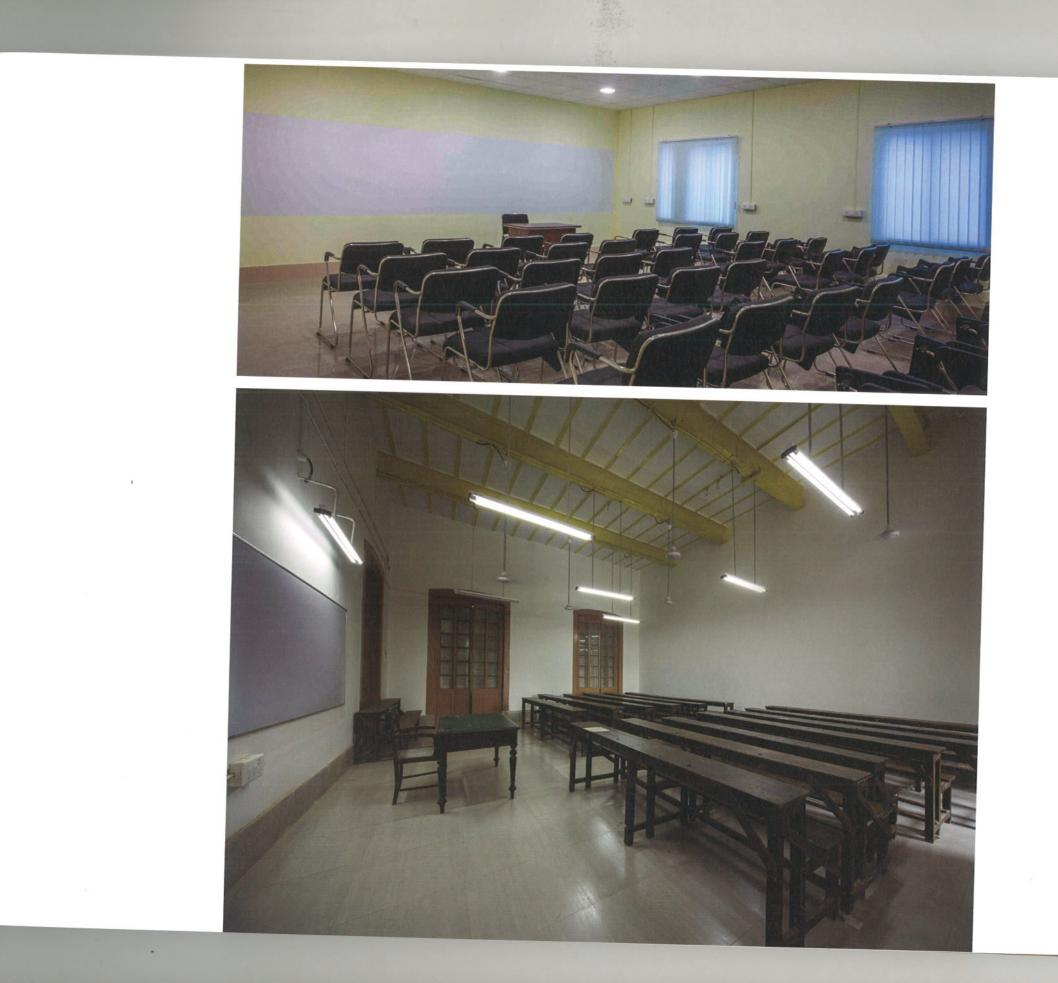




A classroom, before renovation



A classroom, before renovation



Laboratories

The laboratories were housed in the Main Building and behind it, before Baker Laboratories came up. Over the years, a number of renowned and illustrious figures have been associated with these laboratories, from Alexander Pedler, Jagadish Chandra Bose and Prafulla Chandra Ray, to Amal Raychaudhuri and Mihir Chowdhury, to name a few.

All the laboratories have now been upgraded with the latest technology and facilities guaranteed to complement the dedication of the students and ensure they can carry out research in frontier areas of their subjects.

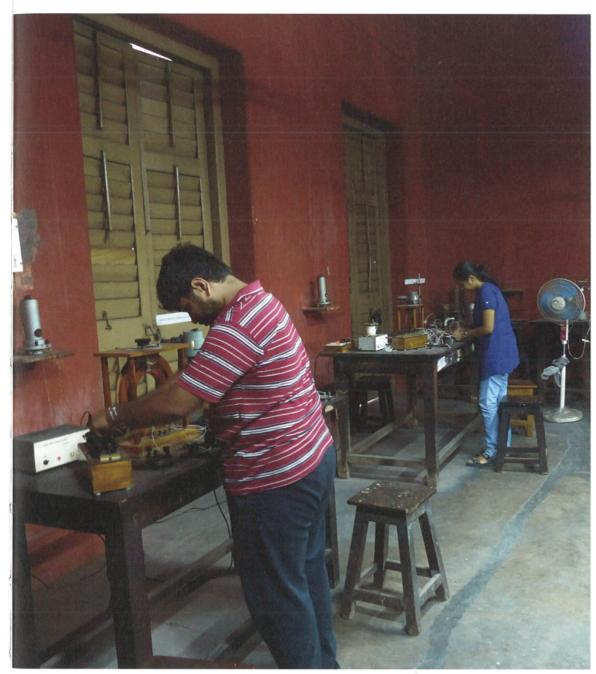




Computer Research Lab



The Physics Lab



The Physics Laboratory, before renovation

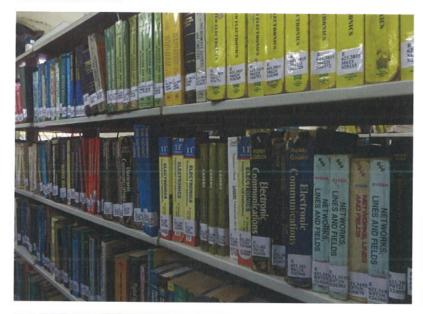


Modern Biology Laboratories now

Libraries

The Presidency Libraries bring to the academic community the extraordinary riches of past learning, scholarship, and resources. Housed in the Libraries is a unique and rich collection of books, periodicals and manuscripts, multimedia resources built over nearly 200 years. This includes some of the rarest reference materials along with thousands of important documents and journals. Gifts of books and other heritage materials have helped strengthen our collections through the years. Since its inception, some of the Libraries' most important collections began with donations from individuals. The University Library comprises two main units—the Arts Library and the Science Library alongside the individual Departmental Libraries. With the vast stock of old and rare books, as well as the growing maintenance demands, plans for further infrastructural development and expansion are being carried out to accommodate these.

Before renovation



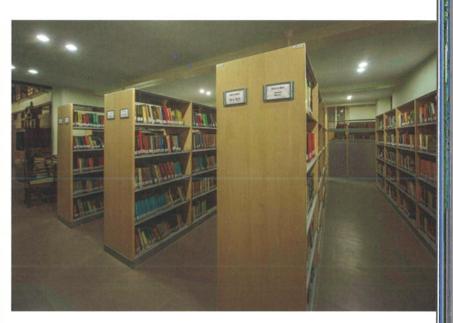






After renovation



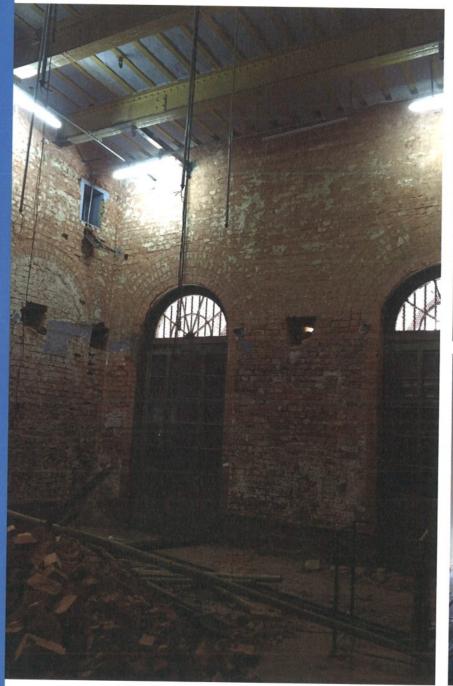


Galleries, Studios and Museums

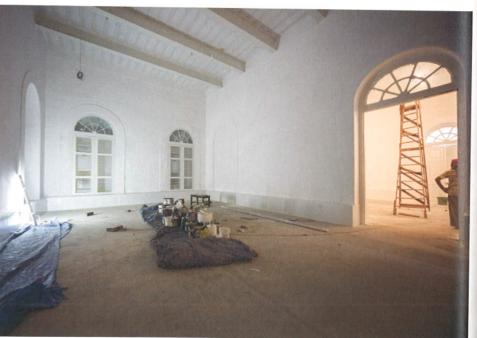
The Department of Performing Arts at Presidency University was launched in June 2016, with a focus on research and critical understanding of performance as dance, theatre and music, within their many interlocking and interfacing worlds. Floor spaces have been renovated to accommodate the demands of this newly created Department, providing ample room for both performance and presentation.

There is also a newly added Black Box Theatre. Plans are afoot for the addition of an Art Gallery space as well, worthy of Presidency's status as a Centre of Excellence.

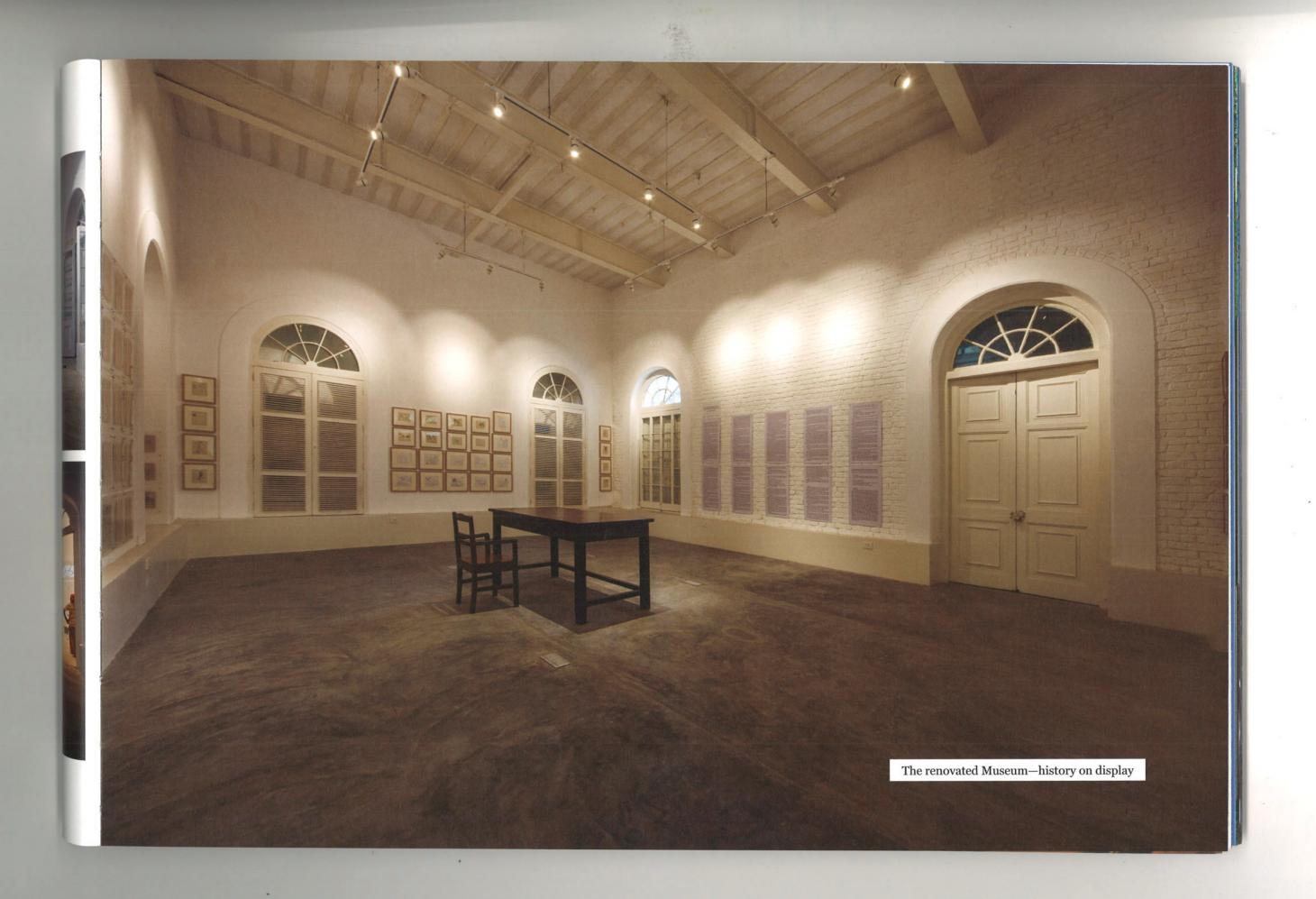
The Geology Department of
Presidency College was founded
on 17th July, 1892. Along the years
it has acquired several historic
Geology specimens and the University
has taken the decision to upgrade
the exhibit showcases and refurbish
the premises, thus heightening
its status as a museum.







The Museum—renovation in progress





Classes at the Hindu College, founded by concerned citizens, commenced on 20 January, 1817 in rented premises at 304 Chitpur Road. It was not the first 'English school' in India, but certainly the first to follow a Western curriculum up to the tertiary level.

On 15 June, 1855 the Senior Section or the Mahapathshala started work as Presidency College—an institution open to all communities. The Junior Section or Pathshala continued to function for Hindu students as Hindu School. In 1855, the College was taken over by the government.

After the founding of Calcutta
University in 1857, Presidency was
deemed a Constituent College, and
ran several teaching and research
programmes on the University's behalf.



Presidency Museum Room 1





On 7 July, 2010 Presidency was accorded the status of a university. Although several histories of the institution have been written and compiled, Presidency lacked an institutional archive. Many documents were in the possession of government departments and the West Bengal State Archives since the College was a government institution.

Several projects were undertaken on the occasion of the bicentenary of the commencement of classes at Hindu College—projects that would be of enduring value. Two of these were the creation of the Presidency Digital Archive, which has been accessible online since January 2017, and the compilation and curation of the Presidency Museum.

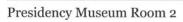
University museums range from general collections to special items for discrete disciplines. The Presidency Museum is a museum of institutional history.

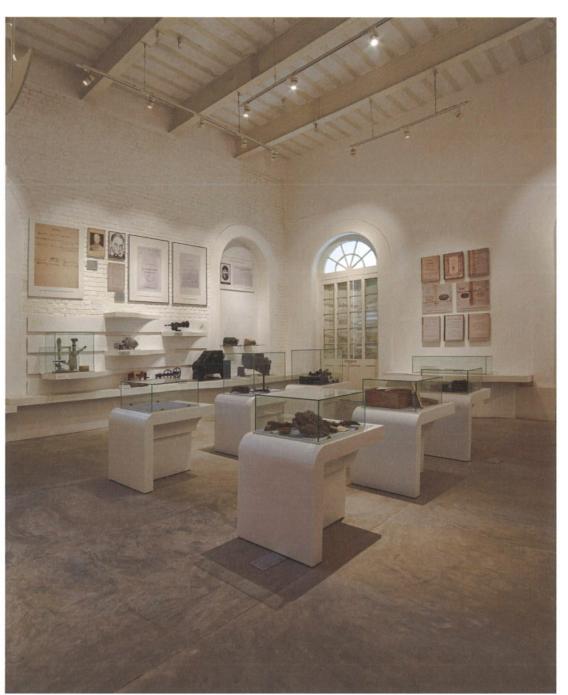






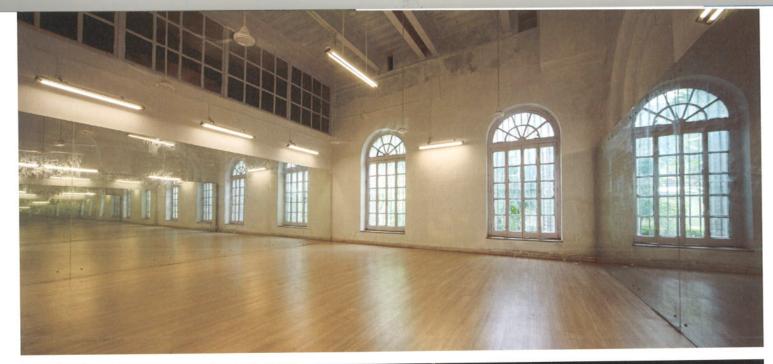








View of the HC Dasgupta Geology Museum



The renovated Performing Arts Studio The Black Box Theatre



Canteens

In the 1940s the College's canteen was called 'Ray Babur Canteen'.

Several eminent academics of the second half of the 20th century, many of whom joined the government and/or have or still are teaching in the world's finest universities, were regulars there. In the 1980s, the Canteen, was run by Pramad da and became the legendary 'Pramoddar Canteen'. It caught fire in early 2017 and had to be rebuilt from scratch.

Today Presidency boasts several canteens. From Sukumar Da's teashop to the Nine to Nine Canteen to Srishti and the Presidency Café, all of which are managed on tenders. The new look Canteens are tailored to today's students and are popular hangouts.



The Canteen then









A view of the Canteen then





The Students' Council room



Sports

Presidency has a long history of excellence in sports, especially in cricket and lawn tennis. Till date it has a strong cricket team.

Until the mid-1950s the college used to have a lawn tennis court to the west of the premises, which was later replaced by the Derozio Building.

Until the mid-20th century the College's sporting facilities were managed and maintained by a Sports Secretary elected from the student body.

Today, the Presidency playground has a new turf to create a suitable playing area for students and there are facilities for badminton in the Common Rooms.



The cricket field, volleyball and basketball courts

Touching matters



Touching matters of health with modernity

Health Unit

Presidency is committed to the well-being of students and the University community. The Health Care Unit is a recent addition to Presidency University. It consists of a consultation chamber, examination room and equipment to monitor emergencies. Personnel are qualified in NPCR and can administer first aid for everyday healthcare needs. The Health Care Unit has links to relevant Government hospitals such as the Medical College Hospital.

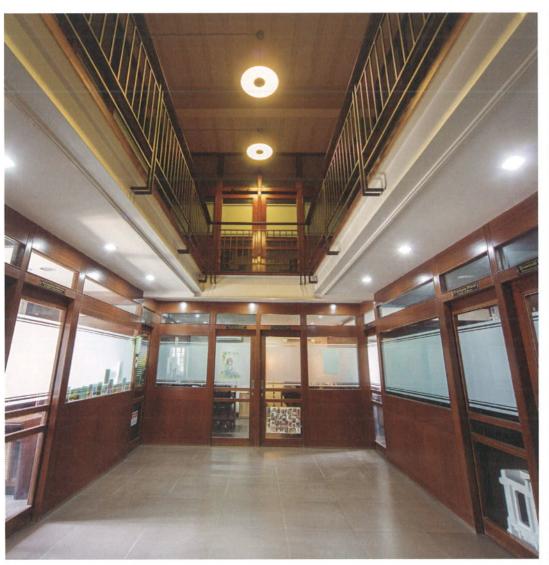
Offices

Presidency University is a vibrant scholarly community. The Professors' Common Room has always been a space for the exchange of ideas among peers. The room is supplied with periodicals, newspapers and magazines for their common use. Much of the furniture is antique dating from colonial times.

Today, comfortable sofas, ample table space and waiting areas have been added to allow academics space to unwind or study lecture notes before attending their next class. A new coat of paint brightens the atmosphere and the existing woodwork has been varnished.



The Vice Chancellor's Office—tradition refurbished





Renovated Professors' office area in the Main Building Professors' Room, after renovation

Alumni Association

The institution has an active Alumni Association. Some of the eminent past Presidents of the Association were Radhabinod Pal and Pratap Chandra Chunder. Dr Shyamaprasad Mookherjee was a past Vice President of the Association. The Association publishes a yearly journal titled the Autumn Annual. Professor Subodh Chandra Sengupta was the longest serving editor-in-chief of the journal.

The Alumni Association has recently moved to a new furnished building behind the Baker Laboratories.



Office of the Alumni Association before renovation



Renovated Alumni Association office



The Departments

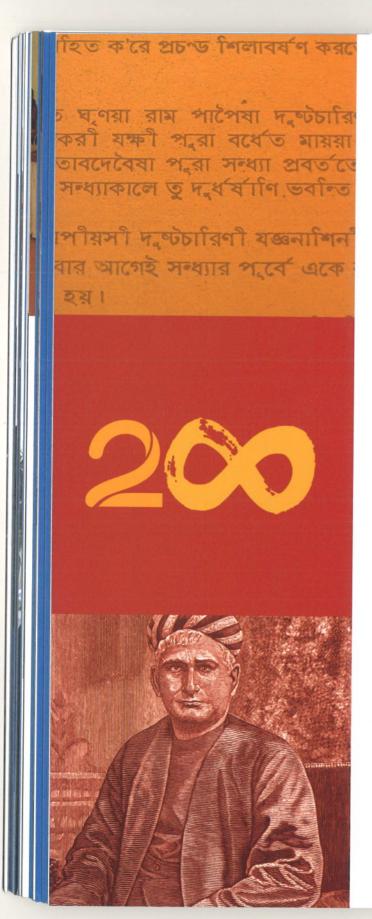
Teaching had always been the strength of Presidency College, arguably the first degree college in the then undivided country to introduce one-on-one tutorials. Following the overhaul of University infrastructure, it has become possible to offer more options to Undergraduate and Graduate students since there are more classrooms and laboratories. New tools, such as electronic resources and field-research at the Undergraduate level, have been supplementing work done in classrooms and in laboratories. At the same time, Presidency has introduced GenEd courses that Undergraduate students must study along with their Major disciplines. These courses replace the obsolete 'Pass Courses', and may range beyond the traditional division of the Sciences and the Humanities.

Research, the key area that accounted for Presidency's fame, has been strengthened with the upgrade of laboratories and libraries. The latter now has access to a wide range of electronic journals, databases, a digital archive of institutional records created in the bicentenary year, and the National Digital Library.

Research projects are currently one of the requirements of all Undergraduate and Graduate programmes. In addition, the assessment of performance is no longer based simply on written tests and viva voce examinations. Appraisal includes, among other things, projects and research assignments.

Student-feedback on research and teaching is mandatory in all Departments. Presidency had for long conducted research as Constituent College of Calcutta University. Presidency's own PhD programme has started in all Departments. Exchange programmes with leading universities abroad such as Cambridge, SOAS (University of London) and Sciences Po, and frequent public lectures by experts and major figures in diverse fields have further enriched the academic culture of the campus.





Department of Bengali

Faculty

Sandip Kumar Mandal

Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Devarati Jana

Assistant Professor

Khokan Kumar Bag

Assistant Professor

Mafizuddin

Assistant Professor

Mostak Ahamed

Assistant Professor

Ritam Mukherjee

Assistant Professor

Santi Saren

Assistant Professor

Shaon Nandi

Assistant Professor

Swarupa Bandyopadhyay

Assistant Professor

Uttam Biswas

Assistant Professor

Bengali as a subject has been taught since the founding of Hindu College in 1817. Early in the 20th century, a combined Department of Bengali, Sanskrit and Hindi was created. Professors Shibaprasad Bhattacharya, Sasanka Shekhar Bagchi and Ashoke Nath Bhattacharya Shastri were some of the eminent teachers at that time. In 1945, the Department of Bengali started functioning independently. The Honours course in Bengali Language and Literature at the Undergraduate level was introduced thereafter. The Department continues to be enriched by the contributions of eminent professors and scholars.

The Department organised three departmental seminars on art and literature. Professor and dramatist Manoj Mitra (Retd Professor, RBU), Professor and film critic Sanjay Mukhopadhyay (Retd Professor, JU) and Professor and novelist Samim Ahamed (Belur, RK Mission) delivered lectures. A proposal for a 3 day national seminar on Medieval Bengali Manuscripts has been submitted to NMM in collaboration with CUMRC. Faculty members and students take an active part in cultural programmes, e.g. celebrating the International Language Day, Basanta-Utsab, Agamani (before Durga Puja) etc.

The Choice Based Credit System has improved students' learning process. Two students have qualified for the NET from the Department and more than three students have been recruited in colleges as Assistant Professors through WBCSC and WBPSC. Adrija Chawdhury, a current student (2017) has ranked 1st in UGC NET with JRF. Another student, Anamitraa Chakroborty has joined (2017) the PhD programme at Indiana University, Bloomington. Three students have joined the PhD programme and four have joined MPhil programmes in other universities. Faculty members are engaged in research in different fields of literature supported by FRPDF and UGC, Major Research Project grants.

We have modified our Undergraduate and Postgraduate syllabi on the basis of students' necessity for higher studies. The Department is equipped with computers with internet facilities, LCD projector, audio-visual seminar halls for students. Our students are regularly involved in research through their sessional papers every semester.

11 PhD scholars are currently doing research and 6 new PhD scholars are engaged in their course-work. The Department will launch the departmental journal *Bangla Bibhagiya Partrika*, a research journal, 2017, this year.

Departi

Faculty

Sumit Chake Assistant Proj Head of the D

Shanta Dutt Professor

Purna Bane Associate Proj

Anirban Ray Assistant Prof

Anupama M Assistant Prof

Kalyan Kum Assistant Prof

Mahitosh Ma Assistant Profe

Shuhita Bha Assistant Prof

Souvik Mukh Assistant Profe

Suddhaseel S Assistant Profe

Department of English

Faculty

Sumit Chakrabarti

Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Shanta Dutta Professor

Purna Banerjee Associate Professor

Anirban Ray Assistant Professor

Anupama Mohan Assistant Professor

Kalyan Kumar Das Assistant Professor

Mahitosh Mandal Assistant Professor

Shuhita Bhattacharjee Assistant Professor

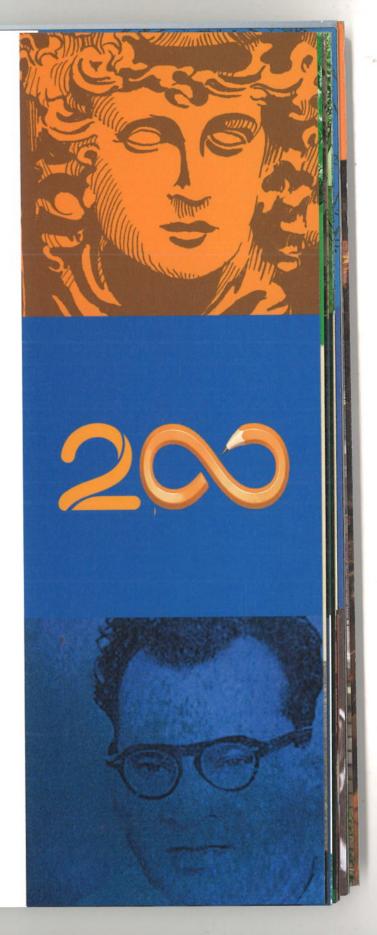
Souvik Mukherjee Assistant Professor

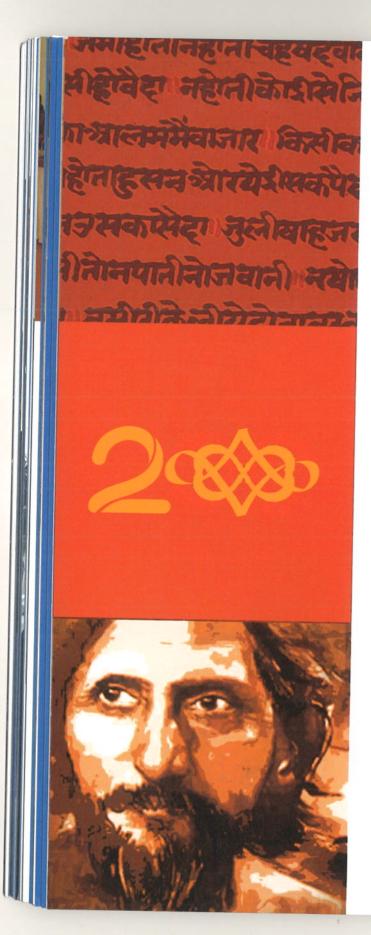
Suddhaseel Sen Assistant Professor The history of English teaching at Presidency can be traced back to 1826, when it was known as Hindu College. Henry Louis Vivian Derozio was appointed Master of English Literature and History. The Department of English owes its distinct identity to the efforts of Principal HR James, who in 1909-1910 separated the various disciplines in view of their specialised requirements. A long line of distinguished scholars and eminent teachers contributed to the Department's heritage. Among the luminaries were DL Richardson, Manmohan Ghose, SC Sengupta, Taraknath Sen, Jadunath Sarkar, Harinath De, Rabindranaryan Ghosh and Phiroz E Dustoor. The Department has produced several notable thinkers and critics such as Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Jasodhara Bagchi, Swapan Kumar Chakravorty, Sukanta Chaudhuri and Nabaneeta Dev Sen.

In its recent University avatar, the Department is interestingly poised between its past glorious tradition of teaching British literature and an exciting future where the discipline has broadened its scope to include literatures of the world.

The faculty has published monographs by international publishers, articles in national and international journals and lectured on Dalit Studies, Lacanian Psychoanalysis and Postmodernism, Victorian Studies, Refugee Studies, Post-secular Studies, Digital Humanities, Clerks in Nineteenth Century Bengal, Egyptology, Critical Theory, Creative Writing, and Asian Studies.

The members have collaborated with students to organise the popular 'Talk of the Month' series with a wide audience from various universities. The HoD, was a convener of the Global Education Summit organised as part of the bicentenary celebrations, which was attended by stalwarts from across the globe. The faculty organised brown-bags on Transmodernity Studies and workshops on e-learning at Presidency University. As an extension of academic initiatives, the faculty has organised outreach activities, informally guiding Postgraduate Dalit students towards MPhil and PhD research positions in reputable institutions, lecturing on the reviving of ancient Indian board games at the Indian Museum, and working across universities on awareness of UGC Anti-sexual Harassment laws.





Department of Hindi

Faculty

Tanuja Majumdar

Professor, Dean of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Head of the Department

Ved Raman Pandey

Assistant Professor

Anindya Gangopadhyay Assistant Professor

Mary Hansda

Assistant Professor

Munni Gupta Assistant Professor

Rishi Bhushan Choubay Assistant Professor

Hindi was taught in Presidency College from the year 1928 with only one teacher, Professor Sibnarayan Lala. After Professor Lala's retirement in 1955, Sri TN Agarwal, a part time teacher, continued to take Hindi classes till 1962, when Sri Premsen Singh took charge, assisted by Sri Jagannath Seth.

The Hindi Department was formally opened in 1981 with only four students and an Honours course of study was offered in 1982. The Department has come a long way since then and currently has an Undergraduate, Postgraduate and PhD programme.

In the bicentenary year the Department of Hindi has taken an active role in academics. The Department is equally concerned to enhance its teaching methods, specially using smart classrooms. A computer laboratory has been set up for students. The GenEd syllabus of the Hindi Department has been redesigned in a manner more attractive to students of other disciplines. The Department has introduced minor research projects for the first time at the Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels in sessional papers.

The memorable history of the Department has been documented systematically in the yearbook published by the University.

In this bicentenary year the Department has organised interdisciplinary lecture series 'Premchand Vayakhyanmala'. 15 lectures have been delivered by the faculty of different subjects. Students of the Department have helped organise the entire lecture series. The Department has received grants for 'Panini Lecture Series' on 'Language, India and Future' and National Seminar on 'Comparative Literature'. A two-day Workshop on 'Manuscriptology' was organised on 3rd-4th May, 2017 for the students under sessional curriculum.

Three students of the Department qualified as Fellows (NET, UGC) joined the PhD Programme of the Department. A PhD scholar of the Hindi Department visited SOAS, University of London, as a visiting Research Scholar for three months from 28th March—29th June, 2017 under the Student Exchange Programme between the Universities.

Departn

Faculty

Rupendra Ku Chattopadhya Paresh Chandr Chair in Histor

Mridu Rai Professor

Soumen Muk Assistant Profe of the Departm

Deepa Khakh Assistant Profe

Kishan Harija Assistant Profes

Milinda Baner Assistant Profes

Navras Jaat A Assistant Profes

Oyndrila Sarka Assistant Profes

Prabhat Kuma Assistant Profes

Sajjad Alam Ri Assistant Profes

Salim Zaweed
Assistant Profess

Swarupa Gupta Assistant Profess

Department of History

Faculty

Rupendra Kumar Chattopadhyay Paresh Chandra Chatterjee Chair in History

Mridu Rai Professor

Soumen Mukherjee Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Deepa Khakha Assistant Professor

Kishan Harijan Assistant Professor

Milinda Banerjee Assistant Professor

Navras Jaat Aafreedi Assistant Professor

Oyndrila Sarkar Assistant Professor

Prabhat Kumar Assistant Professor

Sajjad Alam Rizvi Assistant Professor

Salim Zaweed Assistant Professor

Swarupa Gupta Assistant Professor Since its foundation in 1817, Hindu College has offered a hospitable environment for academic scholarship. In the 1820s, Henry Louis Vivian Derozio taught both English and History at the College, exposing students to powerful ideas about social radicalism and Baconian scepticism. The Department of History, one of the oldest at this institution, continues to remain committed to its glorious past by way of stoking original thinking, state-of-the-art research and, indeed, taking significant steps in the direction of the teaching-learning process through its innovative pedagogic techniques in classrooms and rigorous tutorials. Between November 2016 and November 2017, the Department continued to strive for academic excellence, as reflected in the achievements of both students and the faculty, new curricula, the academic events organised, and in public outreach. Students have excelled in different spheres and some have travelled to prestigious institutions within the rubric of exchange programmes that Presidency University is part of.

A number of former students have moved on to do PhD programmes with full or partial funding at prestigious institutions such as Universities of Pennsylvania, Oxford etc.

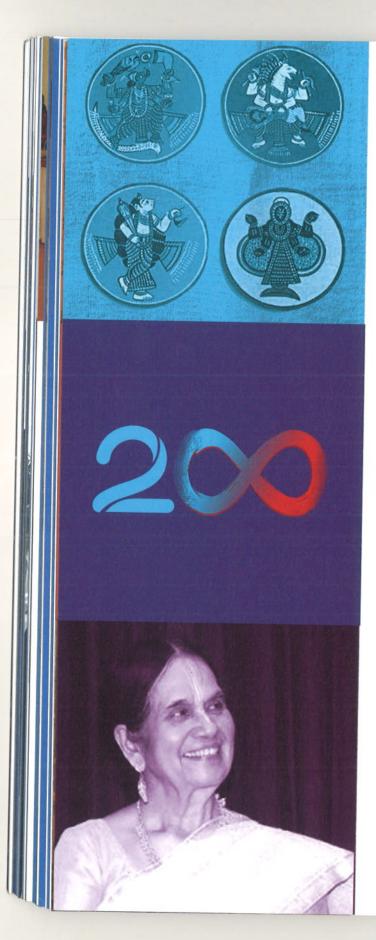
Members of the Faculty have been academic visitors at renowned institutions both within and outside India.

To mention a few illustrative cases, members of the faculty have gone on visiting positions, e.g. at Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, or have been working on Postdoctoral projects at institutions such as University of Munich. Others have been to short-term summer institutes, such as in Oxford, and one faculty member won a short-term visiting/exchange position funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State. Several members of faculty have been involved in collaborative events with other institutions, such as participating in a curricular workshop at the University of East Anglia. Many of them serve as peer-reviewers with prestigious publishing houses. Publications of the faculty include monographs from publishing houses of international standing, refereed journal articles and essays in edited volumes and interventions in the popular media.

The Department attracted about 35 scholars as part of the bicentenary celebrations.

Regular lectures and workshops were held, and a renowned scholar of Antisemitism and Holocaust studies, Alvin Rosenfeld, was hosted for a week. The Department also started its language programme at its Postgraduate level, while the PhD programme has also commenced in earnest.





Department of Performing Arts

Faculty

Sreemati MukherjeeProfessor, Head of the
Department

AP Rajaram Assistant Professor

Niladri Roy Assistant Professor

The Department of Performing Arts was launched in June 2016, as part of a vision of integrating and expanding the Sciences and Arts through the philosophies inherent in the Performing Arts. Though the Department has been newly created, Presidency boasts of a long and rich heritage in the fields of performing and creative arts through former students such as Pramothesh Barua, Satyajit Ray, Debjani Chaliha, Ashok Kumar, Chhabi Biswas and Aparna Sen who have shaped the cultural arena of India to a great extent. The Department combines Theory and Practice to explore the furthest reaches of the term 'Performance' within the widest social, cultural and economic parameters or contexts.

The Department of Performing Arts, June 2016, highlights teaching, Theory and Practice, as well as research. The Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) has allowed the Department to have a wide outreach in the University through its GenEd courses that have introduced students to many global performance traditions. Amongst the most significant achievements of the Department has been the installation of a Dance Studio which launched the Dance Lab Program conducted by Guru Imocha Singh and Guru Navtej Johar, 31st July—5th September, 2017 as well as the Black Box Theatre.

In terms of its music outreach the Department has facilitated all the music programmes pertaining to the bicentenary, the NAAC visit and the Convocation. In terms of research too, the Department has made significant contributions to the University. The entire bicentenary Cultural Programme from the Prinsep Ghat celebrations on 6th January, 2017 to the closing ceremony at Derozio Hall, Presidency University, on 20th January, 2017, was organised by the Department.

The faculty teaches both historical and avant garde Performance Theories to Major and GenEd students. Among Cultural Programmes organised this year the faculty choreographed a dance on Mass Violence with the Department of History on 27th February, 2017, held the Agamani celebrations in the pre-Durga Puja period on 18th October, 2017. All of these involved students across the University.

The faculty have participated in three international conferences and three invited lectures and have published two journal articles and one article in an edited volume. One of them has been selected as the Co-chair (November 2017) of the Research and Documentation Chapter of World Dance Alliance—Asia Pacific (interim).

Depa

Facult

Barada L Assistant I of the Dep

Arnab Ku Assistant

Mainak P Assistant I

Manoj Ku Assistant I

Ngaineila Assistant I

Nusrat Ja Assistant F

Priyanka | Assistant P

Department of Philosophy

Faculty

Barada Laxmi Panda

Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Arnab Kumar Mukhopadhyay Assistant Professor

Mainak Pal Assistant Professor

Manoj Kumar Panda Assistant Professor

Ngaineilam Haokip Assistant Professor

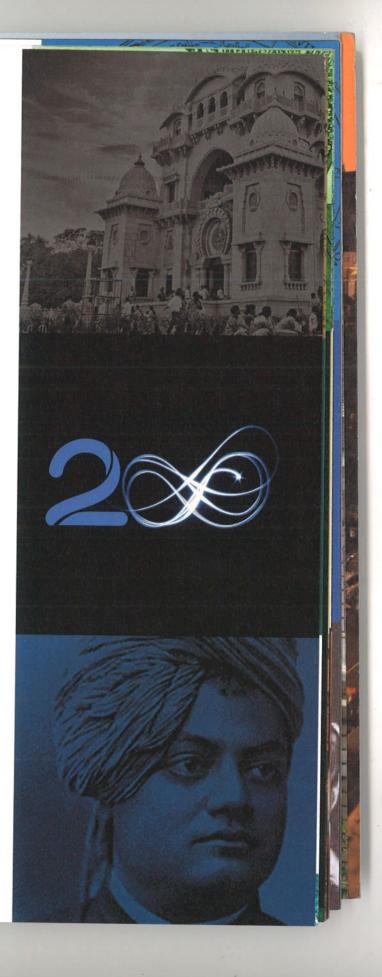
Nusrat Jahan Assistant Professor

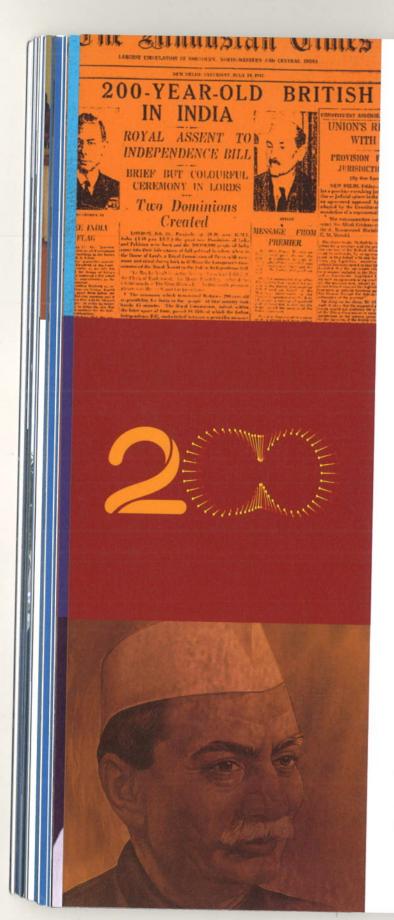
Priyanka De Assistant Professor

The history of the Department of Philosophy is to be traced back to the year 1868 with the joining of Professor Prasanna Kumar Ray as Professor of Philosophy in Presidency College. Professor Ray took the initiative to start the first Students' Society under the name of 'Philosophy Seminar' in 1896. It grew out of an association of a galaxy of faculty members such as Richard Jones, PK Roy, Nilkanta Majumder and it has been associated with scholars such as Netaji Subhas Bose, KC Bhattacharya, Gopinath Bhattacharya, Hiranmoy Bandyopadhaya, Jitendra Nath Mohanty, Shibjiban Bhattacharya, Asok Kumar Ganguly and Durgadas Bandyopadhaya, to name a few.

The Department had organised eight weekly talks this year and one national seminar on 'Agency and Values: Ethical Challenges in 21st Century' on the occasion of the bicentenary celebration of Presidency University. In the Department, the faculty members are involved in research in Philosophy such as Ethics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Language and Logic. They have delivered talks in International and National Seminars and have published papers.

The Department follows the method of teaching by considering each and every student as unique. The teachers take tutorial classes and circulate study materials like articles from journals, apart from the prescribed text-books, to involve students in current research, which helps them extend their knowledge and improve their skill of analysing and philosophising the problems. Students have received both national and international scholarships.





Department of Political Science

Faculty

Pradip Basu

Professor, Head of the Department

Abdus Samad Gayen

Assistant Professor

Garima Dhabhai

Assistant Professor

Madhuchanda Ghosh

Assistant Professor

Madhura Damle

Assistant Professor

Rajat Roy

Assistant Professor

Satyabrat Sinha

Assistant Professor

Shilpa Shaw

Assistant Professor

Tanwir Arshed

Assistant Professor

Yarraguntla Suresh Babu

Assistant Professor

Zaad Mahmood

Assistant Professor

The Department of Political Science was separated from the earlier Department of Economics and Political Science, and began its journey independently at the Undergraduate level in 1960. The Department cherishes its illustrious past, but tries every moment to enrich its present. With a bunch of fresh, inquisitive students and dedicated faculty, the Department's quest for quality and knowledge continues. The Department has recently updated its Undergraduate, Postgraduate and GenEd syllabi. We have introduced new methods of applied learning such as group discussions, field work, preparing research report, etc along with reading texts. Workshops on research methodology have been organised. Three of our students visited Sciences Po, Paris, under the exchange programme.

We are part of student exchange programmes

with University of Waseda, Tokyo, and

Sciences Po, Lille.

The teachers have a total number of 16 publications comprising research articles, papers, chapters and books.

They have presented papers in 13 international and 14 national seminars. Two teachers have been offered Visiting Fellowships; viz one in NZIRI, New Zealand (as Inlaks Fellow), and another in Wolfson College, Oxford, currently teaching at the Oxford University. The Department observed Constitution Day and Yoga Day. We organised workshops during the visit of students and faculties of Georgia State University.

One teacher in collaboration with other
Departments directed 'Dastan-e-Presidency',
a multilingual performance narrating 200 years
of history of the University. The Department
organised Endowment Lectures along with
talks by Neera Chandoke, Subir Sinha (SOAS),
Minohara (Kobe University), Craig Brandist,
(University of Sheffield), Masaaki Ohashi
(University of Sacred Heart, Tokyo), etc.

Depart

Faculty

Prasanta Ra Professor Em

Suhrita Sah Assistant Pro Head of the D

Sumita Saha Associate Pro

Antara Ray Assistant Proj

Bhaskar Cha Assistant Prof

Hia Sen Assistant Prof

Nabamita Da Assistant Prof

Niloshree Bh Assistant Profe

Souvik Mond Assistant Profe

Sukanya Sarl Assistant Profe

Suvrata Chov Assistant Profe

Upal Chakral Assistant Profe

Department of Sociology

Faculty

Prasanta Ray Professor Emeritus

Suhrita Saha Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Sumita Saha Associate Professor

Antara Ray Assistant Professor

Bhaskar Chakraborti Assistant Professor

Hia Sen Assistant Professor

Nabamita Das Assistant Professor

Niloshree Bhattacharya Assistant Professor

Souvik Mondal Assistant Professor

Sukanya Sarbadhikary Assistant Professor

Suvrata Chowdhury Assistant Professor

Upal Chakrabarti Assistant Professor We began our journey in 1989 from a floor landing above Derozio Hall with two partitioned rooms. The Department in Presidency College was established and developed under the supervision of Professor Prasanta Ray. In 2002 we shifted to the Netaji Subhas Building sharing floor space with the Department of Political Science and in 2010 we got full floor space on the first floor of the same building. The physical infrastructural expansion of the Department is matched by a faculty strength, which has increased from 4 to 11. Two new Assistant Professors have joined the Department.

We are a vibrant academic Department with faculty trained in the best institutions in India and abroad. Our former students are successfully placed in various institutions in the country. An interdisciplinary approach, pedagogic rigour and critical reflexive thinking shape the Department's vision. As part of Presidency's bicentenary celebration, the Department of Sociology hosted a two-day conference on 20th-21st February, 2017 on 'Heritage and History in South Asia' in collaboration with SOAS, University of London.

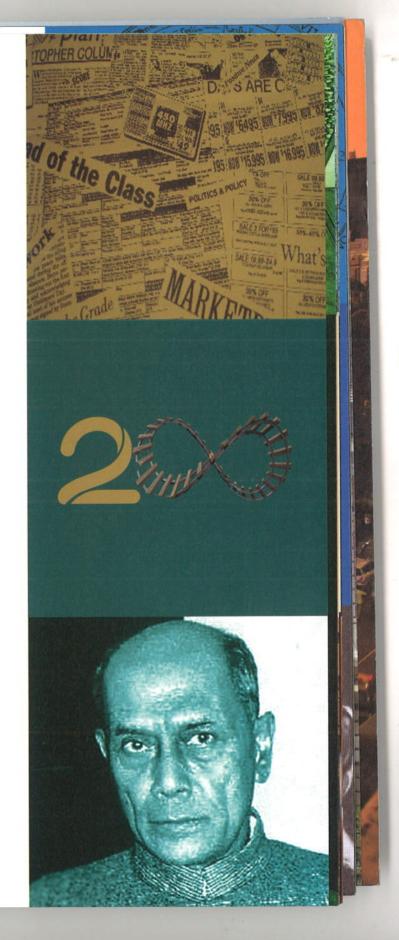
We regularly host talks by scholars. This year we had Dr Norbert Peabody, University of Cambridge, Dr Nayanika Mookherjee, Durham University, among others. We also held a workshop on Queer Movement on 16th October, 2017.

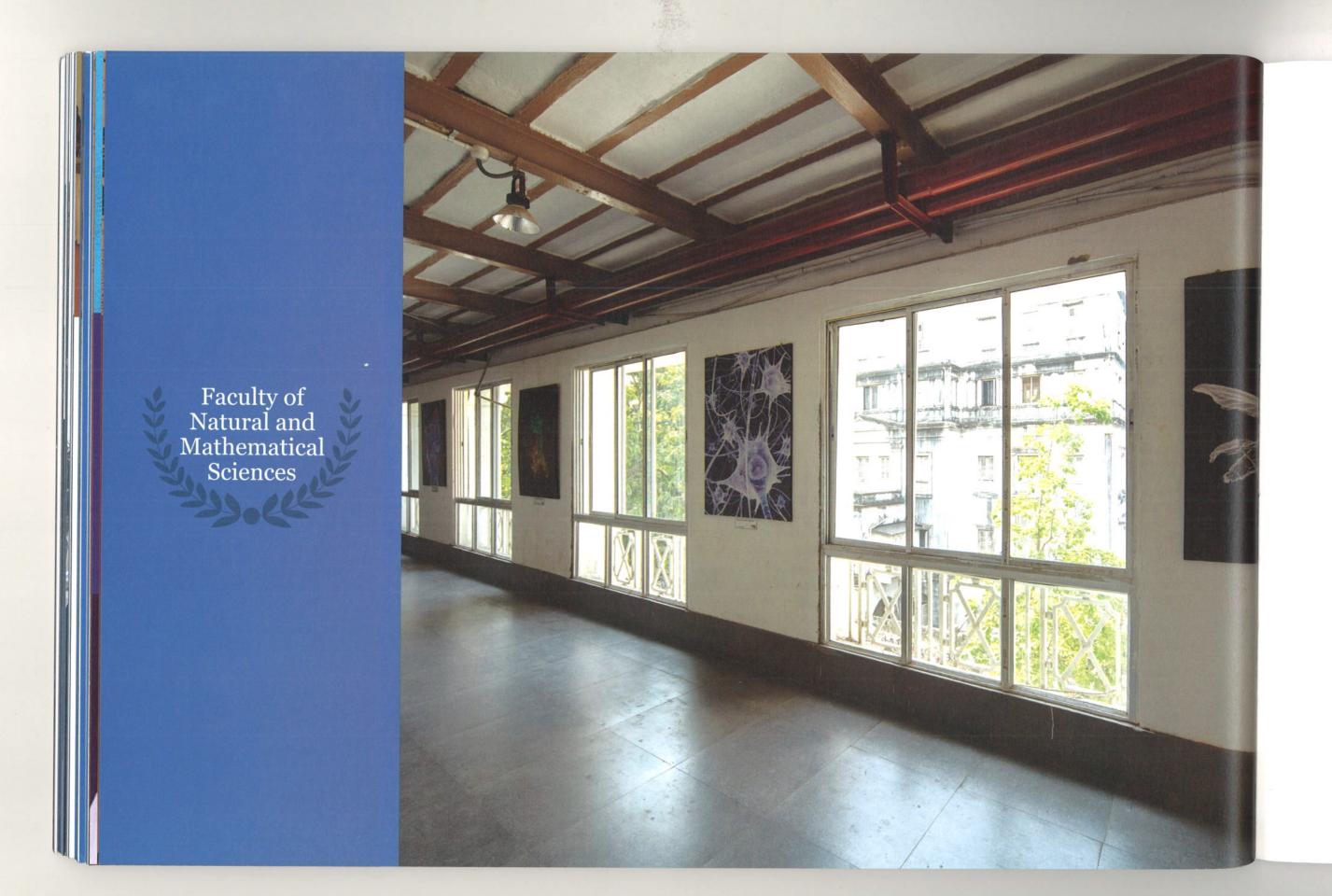
The interdisciplinary curriculum offers a wide array of foundational and innovative papers. We follow the University's mandate of confidential student assessment of teachers and mentor-mentee groups. Choice Based Credit System and the semester pattern gives students agility, freedom. Audio-visual learning, collective evaluation, presentations, dissertations are some of the new teaching-evaluating methods we follow. This year 4 new PhD scholars were selected.

While teaching is our primary preoccupation we are also dedicated to research.

The Department with 11 full time faculty has published 2 books (including Routledge), 2 papers in peer-reviewed journals. 9 articles in edited volumes and book reviews in academic journals are forthcoming.

A total of 7 national presentations, and 2 international presentations were delivered, and 3 sessions were chaired by the faculty. A faculty member has successfully completed one ICSSR funded project this year.





Depart

Faculty

Bijan Das Professor, Ho Department

Gandhi Ku Professor

Adity Bose Assistant Pro

Anjoy Majh Assistant Pro

Arnab Hald Assistant Pro

Biplab Bisw Assistant Pro

Dhruba Pro

Koena Ghos Assistant Pro

Pulak Kuma Assistant Pro

Sasikumar l Assistant Proj

Department of Chemistry

Faculty

Bijan Das

Professor, Head of the Department

Gandhi Kumar Kar Professor

Adity Bose Assistant Professor

Anjoy Majhi Assistant Professor

Arnab Halder Assistant Professor

Biplab Biswas Assistant Professor

Dhruba Prosad Chatterjee Assistant Professor

Koena Ghosh Assistant Professor

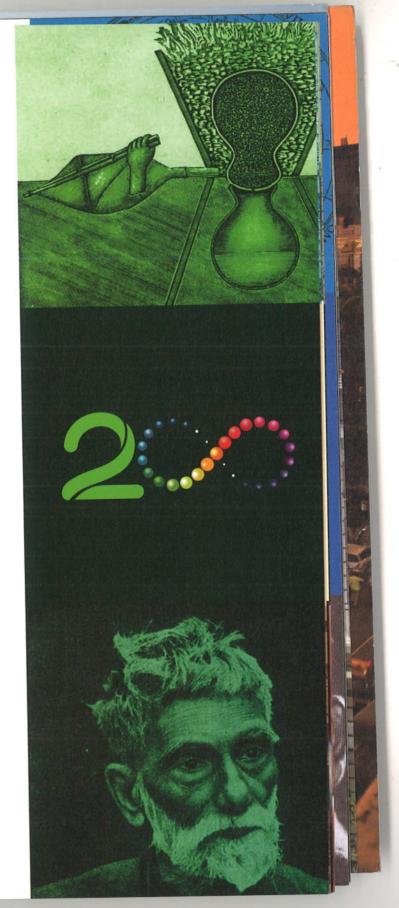
Pulak Kumar Ghosh Assistant Professor

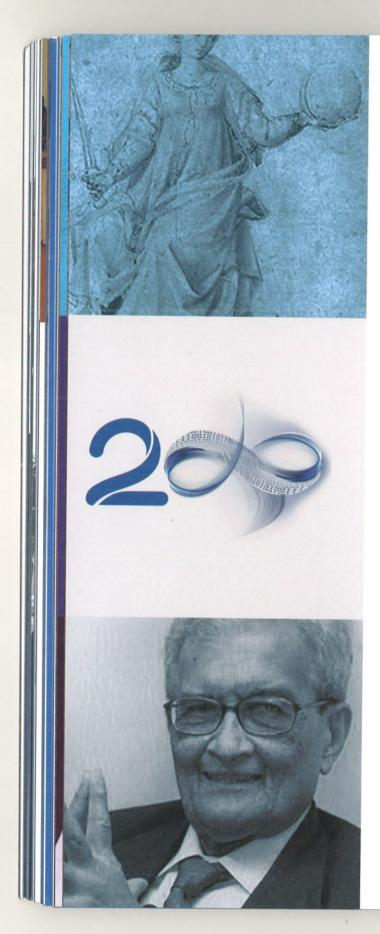
Sasikumar Palani Assistant Professor The Department of Chemistry of the erstwhile Presidency College was established in 1864. In the late nineteenth century the Department was shaped by the likes of Alexander Pedler and Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray. With its glorious heritage and long history as a Department of the Presidency College, the Department started functioning as part of Presidency University from 2010. The faculty members are pursuing research at the frontiers of Chemistry and students excel in national level qualifying tests for MSc and PhD programmes every year. Former students are placed in many prestigious organisations.

As part of the bicentenary celebration, the Department organised four lectures by renowned scientists from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science and SN Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences. Students and faculty participated in the bicentenary celebrations. Nine students joined the PhD programme of the Department. The faculty published 16 research papers (ACS: 3, Elsevier: 4, RSC: 3, AIP: 1, Others: 5) and one book chapter this year. 13 research projects (DST: 6, UGC: 4, CSIR: 1, WBDHESTBT: 2) are ongoing/completed with a total funding of more than ₹2 crore. 8 faculty members have submitted research proposals to WBDHESTBT.

Dr Pulak K Ghosh visited the CEMS, RIKEN, Japan, during November–December, 2016–2017. Two faculty members delivered invited talks in three conferences this year. Professor Bijan Das was awarded Calcutta University Parul Shiksha Samman in 2017.

Students of the Department who completed their BSc joined the MSc programme of the University and at other leading institutes. Many Postgraduate students (2016 and 2017) are now pursuing PhDs, and have been recruited by ONGC, NTPC and GSI. The Department offers six-semester Undergraduate (96 credits) and four-semester Postgraduate courses (80 credits) and six GenEd courses (24 credits) to students of other Departments (both Humanities and Natural Sciences). We encourage regular participation of students in the Departmental research programmes to experience hands-on research. Student seminars on contemporary research topics are organised. Many students carry out short projects in the research laboratories during the semester-break. Computer-aided teaching and uploading of study materials on the web portal are practised. The third year BSc Chemistry students organise a student outreach programme every year, which helps disseminate knowledge of Chemistry. Open-book tests to help apply the principles learnt in theory classes to specific problems, are regularly held.





Department of Economics

Faculty

Mousumi Dutta

Professor and Head of the Department

Gagari Chakrabarti Assistant Professor

Jayeeta Deshmukh Assistant Professor

Pravesh Tamang Assistant Professor

Prithviraj Guha Assistant Professor

Saswatee Mukherjee Assistant Professor

Supravat Bagli Assistant Professor The history of the Department of Economics goes back to 1908 when the Department of Political Economy and Political Philosophy was established. An independent Department of Economics was established in 1960.

The Department boasts of distinguished alumni who include Amartya Kumar Sen, recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1998, Bhabatosh Dutta, Sukhamoy Chakravarty, Mihir Rakshit, Amiya Bagchi, Amit Bhaduri, Pranab Bardhan, Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee and Debraj Ray, to name only a few. Many ex-students of the Department have risen to prominence and hold significant positions in the domain of policy making.

The bicentenary celebrations of Presidency
University started with the Nobel Laureate
Jean Tirole (Toulouse School of Economics)
delivering the Dipak Banerjee Memorial
Lecture. Students of the Department
organised an international level festival,
Arthatantra, at which special lectures were
delivered by Pranab Bardhan (University of
California, Berkeley), Amit Bhaduri (JNU)
and NR Prabhala (University of Maryland).
The Department organised lectures
on themes such as international trade
and finance, Big Data, Non-parametric
Econometrics, and Environmental Economics.

Speakers included Sumit Agarwal (Georgetown University), Susmita Dasgupta (World Bank), Sourav Bhattacharya (Royal Holloway University), Debopam Bhattacharya (Cambridge University), Anjan Mukherji (JNU), among others.

The faculty have been engaged in research on topics such as reproductive behaviour, emotional intelligence and workplace behavior, GIS and maternal health, biological economics, child health, economic evaluation of alternative methods of cancer treatment, investment behaviour in a chaotic market for green stocks, multi-dimensional poverty, information sharing in the informal sector, etc. Some of the output was presented at conferences in UK, Russia, South Africa, IIT Chennai, TIES, etc, and published by Springer and Palgrave.

The Undergraduate major curriculum is modelled on the Choice Based Credit System allowing students to opt for a broad range of courses. Research capabilities of students are encouraged through compulsory project papers. Some of the Postgraduate projects have been submitted for publication in reputable international journals.

The Department also organised a national-level Entrepreneurship Development Workshop to make students aware of an alternative future.

Departn

Faculty

Soumendu C Professor, Hea Department

Aritra Chakr Professor

Dhiraj Barma Assistant Profe

Joy Sanyal Assistant Profe

Koel Roychov Assistant Profe

Mery Biswas Assistant Profe

Nasim Aktar Assistant Profe

Priyank Prav Assistant Profe

Saurav Chaku Assistant Profe

Subhajit Das Assistant Profes

Suranjana Ba Assistant Profes

Department of Geography

Faculty

Soumendu Chatterjee

Professor, Head of the Department

Aritra Chakraborty

Professor

Dhiraj Barman

Assistant Professor

Joy Sanyal Assistant Professor

Koel Roychowdhury Assistant Professor

Mery Biswas Assistant Professor

Nasim Aktar Assistant Professor

Priyank Pravin Patel Assistant Professor

Saurav Chakraborty Assistant Professor

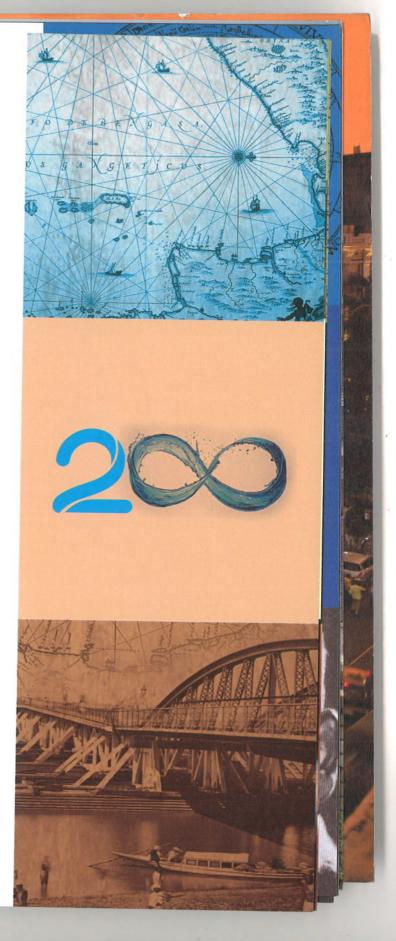
Subhajit Das Assistant Professor

Suranjana Banerji Assistant Professor The Department is one of the oldest such departments of Geography in the country. It started functioning in Presidency College during the 1949–50 academic session. The first Head was Nisithranjan Kar (1946–8, 1950–64). The Department has a longstanding commitment to teaching and research. In the 1960s, the faculty and students undertook field surveys to assist Ford Foundation and the CMPO draw up a Calcutta Metropolitan Area Delimitation proposal and the Basic Development Plan for the area.

The tradition of teaching, research and commitment to the environment remains unbroken as the curricula have been developed and new teaching methods introduced in keeping with the requirements of modern Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses in Geography. The Department seeks to instil an understanding of theoretical aspects while fostering marketable skills that may be applied in solving socio-environmental problems.

On the theme of Excellence in Education, the Department of Geography organised a well-attended special lecture series from 5th-7th April, 2017, with speakers from the natural and social sciences from across India. A workshop on Geographical Methods was organised from 4th-22nd December, 2017, along with the creation of a special seminar library section to further the special series ideas to mark the bicentenary year.

Departmental faculty have together contributed 12 papers in leading international publications over the last year. Students have participated at state, national and international conferences, securing awards. Promising students of the Department have obtained internships at IIT-Bombay and NIO-Goa. A number of students have secured teaching and funded research positions in colleges and universities across West Bengal, India and abroad. Under the CBCS, the Department caters to both Humanities and Science students through its GenEd Programme and also offers specialisations in its Postgraduate course, which are most pertinent for research and placements later. Audio-visual means of instruction along with e-learning have been adopted. Students are attuned to the latest innovations in learning methods and to also use these resources to self-teach and complete assignments.





Department of Geology

Faculty

Gautam Ghosh Professor, Head of the Department

Joydip Mukhopadhyay Professor

Arijit Ray Professor

Sankar Bose Professor

Kalyan Halder Associate Professor

Gautam Kumar Deb Assistant Professor

Anudeb Mandal Assistant Professor

MD Sayad Rahaman Assistant Professor

Riya Mondal Assistant Professor

Sanjib Biswas Assistant Professor

Sayan Biswas Assistant Professor

Supriyo Kumar Das Assistant Professor (UGC)

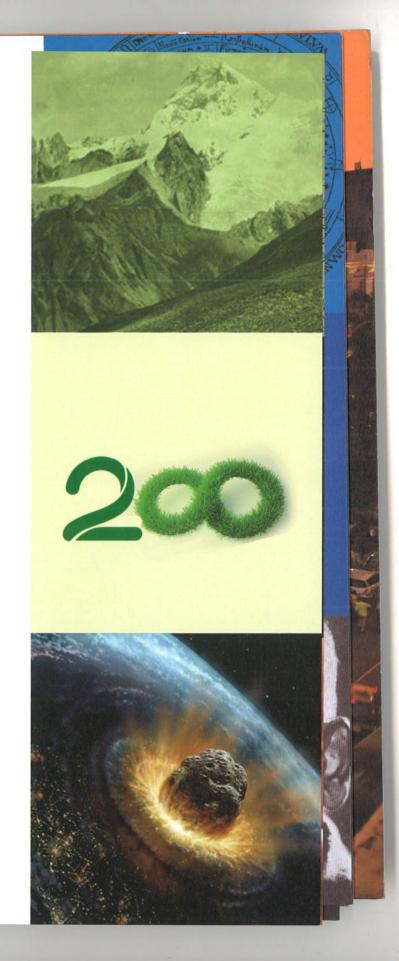
Nilanjan Dasgupta Associate Professor (on Lien) The Department of Geology at Presidency College was established in 1892, the first of its kind in India, with Sir Thomas Holland of the Geological Survey of India as the first Professor of Geology. The renowned Indian geologist PN Bose acted as Professor-in-charge for two years from 1901. The first full-time teacher to join the Department was late Hem Chandra Dasgupta (1903). The Department lives up to its tradition of dedicated teaching and its reputation as a pioneering research centre to this day.

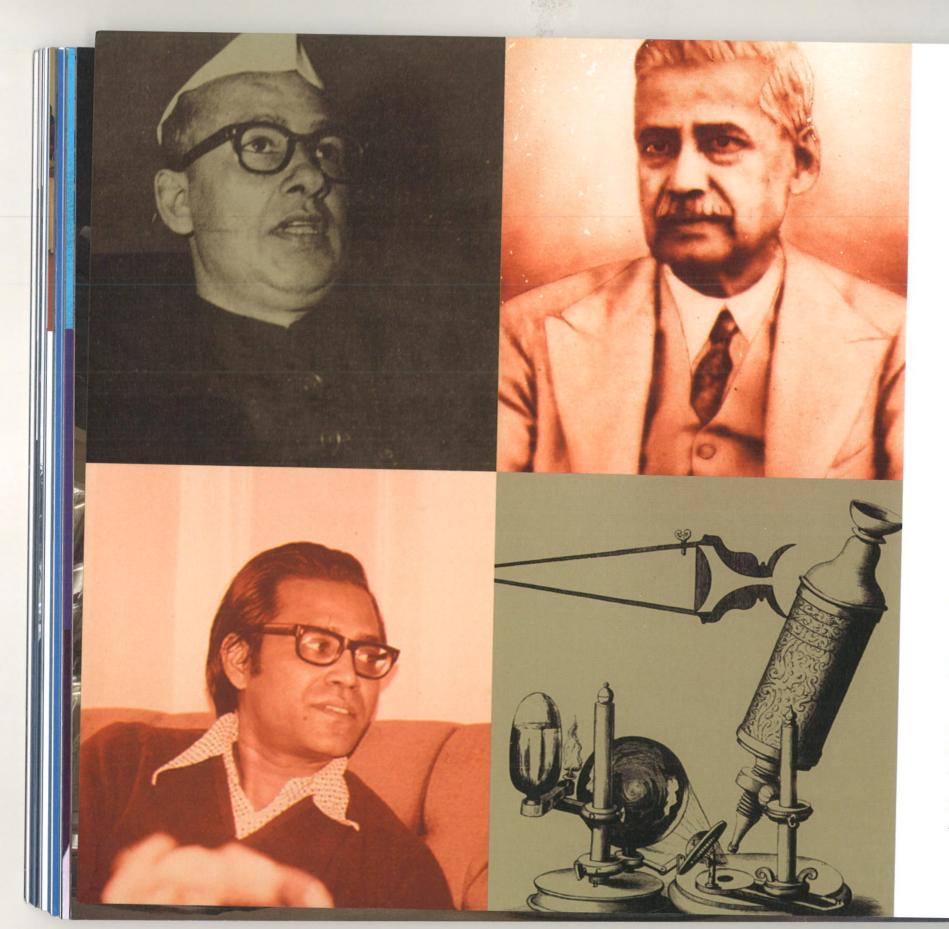
The Department invited two eminent scientists this year to speak at the bicentenary programme of the University. Invited talks by eminent scientists and ex-students pursuing PhD programmes in universities abroad were organised throughout the year. A student's Seminar-cum-Workshop was organised on 15-16th September, 2017, in which more than a hundred students from different colleges and universities of our state took part and a volume of Bhuvidya, the journal of students, was published. A National Seminar, 24–25th October, 2017, was organised with more than a hundred participants from different parts of India and a seminar volume was published highlighting Departmental research and achievements.

Researchers from the Department published about 20 papers in high impact journals in 2017. Two faculty members, Professor G Ghosh and Professor S Bose, were inducted in the International Research Group, the Hiroshima Institute of Plate Convergence Region Research (HiPeR). A number of research projects are being currently pursued by faculty members. The Department has applied for DST-FIST Phase III grant last October. Two international collaborative research programmes between India-Brazil and India-Japan are in progress and new collaboration between India and Japan has been proposed to DST-JSPS.

A new Postgraduate syllabus has been introduced to foster a balance between textbook study and hands-on research.

Two of our final year MSc students have been nominated for participation in the first International Seminar organised by HiPeR to be held in January 2018, at Hiroshima University. Several research scholars of the Department participated in International and National Seminars and Symposia with grants from international and national funding bodies. The Credit Based Undergraduate System has drawn sharp interest of extra-departmental students to opt for GenEd courses in Geology.





Department of Life Sciences

Faculty

Devashish Sen

Professor, Head of the Department

Mausumi Sikdar (Nee Bhakta)

Associate Professor

Prabir Kumar Mukhopadyay

Associate Professor

Abhijit Dey Assistant Professor

Abhik Saha Assistant Professor

Amlan Ghosh Assistant Professor

Aparna Mukhopadhay Assistant Professor

Atreyi Chatterjee (nee Ghatak) Assistant Professor

Devrani MitraAssistant Professor

Kalyan Giri

Assistant Professor

Kousik Pramanick Assistant Professor

M Ganesan Assistant Professor

Madhuchhanda Mandal

Assistant Professor

Malay Das Assistant Professor

Nabendu Biswas Assistant Professor

Paramita Chaudhuri Basu Assistant Professor

Piyali Mukherjee Assistant Professor

Pralay Majumder Assistant Professor

Puja Ray Assistant Professor Ranjana Pal Assistant Professor

Sanghamitra Dey Assistant Professor

Santanu Chakraborty Assistant Professor

Shampa Sarkar (Biswas) Assistant Professor

Souryadeep Mukherjee Assistant Professor

Sugopa Sengupta Assistant Professor

Sumit Mandal Assistant Professor

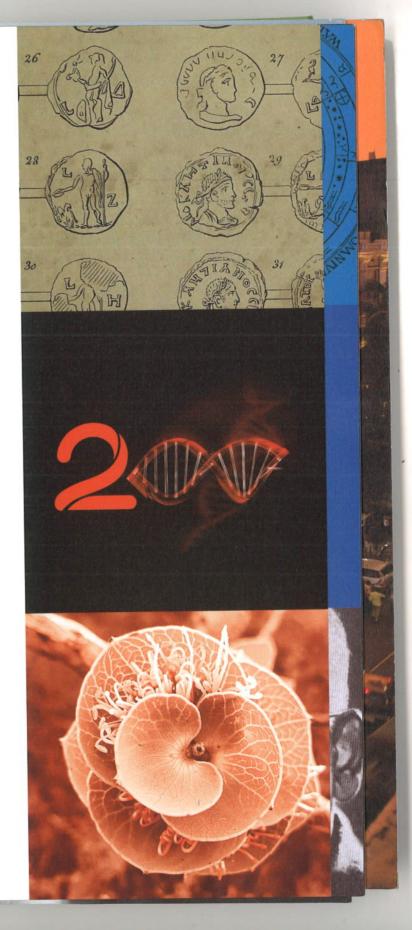
Sutapa Saha Assistant Professor

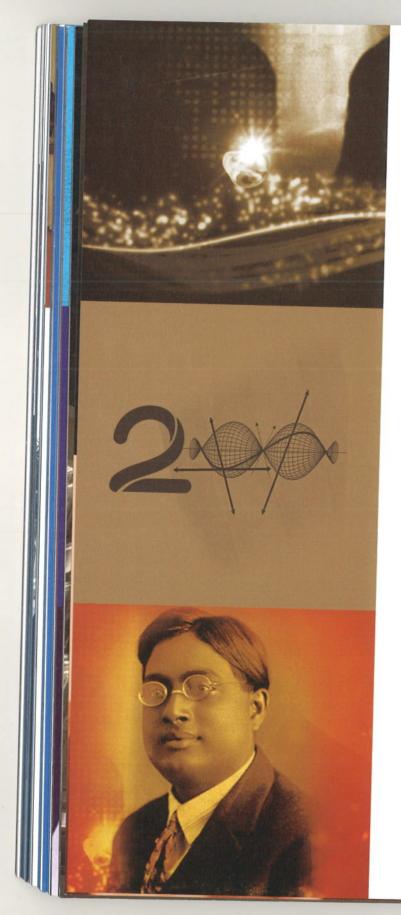
Jana Chakraborty, WBES Assistant Professor Professor Subodh Chandra Mahalanobis established the Department of Biology in 1900. In 1901, the Department of Physiology and the Department of Botany were formed from the Department of Biology. Later on, other Departments and courses such as Zoology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry and Biotechnology were formed.

In 2013, on the recommendation of the Mentor Group, all the Departments and courses were merged into the Department of Biological Sciences for optimum utilisation of space and resources. In 2016, the Department was renamed Department of Life Sciences in conformity with Indian nomenclature.

Last year, the Department has organised multiple public lectures by Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Professor Bruce Alberts and Professor Anindya Dutta as part of the bicentenary celebrations. We have been actively involved in a number of outreach programmes (notably the 'Brain-Awareness' sessions) and have made a number of fruitful collaborations with other institutes/universities at both national and international levels.

A number of faculty members received grants for various research projects amounting to more than $\ref{12}$ crore for the last 5 years. Along with classroom lectures, we have included mandatory class tests (internal assessments), students' seminars/journal club presentations, and a rigorous end-semester 'Grand Viva' for theoretical and practical modules to prepare students for all sorts of career challenges. Consequently, our students have secured their places in many renowned universities/institutes for Postgraduation and doctoral studies. The Postgraduate syllabus has recently been extensively restructured. In this new 'learner-centric' curriculum, there is significant emphasis on developing critical thinking, logical interpretation and an analytical approach to problem-solving. The final two Postgraduate semesters are entirely research-based, and students get the unique opportunity of working in a research laboratory for their dissertation. Students opt for specialisation in different Faculty Research Groups (FRGs), created on the basis of common academic interests, thus promoting an interactive student-teacher platform.





Department of Mathematics

Faculty

Tapan Saha

Assistant Professor, Head of the Department

Kuntal Banerjee

Assistant Professor

Pampa Paul Assistant Professor

Ritu Sen Assistant Professor

Shubhabrata Das Assistant Professor

Subhra Bhattacharya Assistant Professor The Department of Mathematics is possibly the oldest Asian centre for teaching Mathematics following a Western curriculum, which started its journey from the founding of Hindu College in 1817. Mathematics was taught along with Natural Sciences and there were several Professors in the initial phase of this institution, appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Sciences simultaneously. For a long time Astronomy was taught at the Department with Mathematics. In the beginning of the 20th century, Mixed Mathematics was taught and it was a successful programme as it produced some great scholars.

The Department of Mathematics organised a special series of lectures on 'Arithmetic Groups' delivered by Madabusi Raghunathan, who also delivered a public lecture at the bicentenary celebrations in January 2017. Moreover, the Department arranged 13 seminars throughout the year with speakers such as Raghunath Tewari (IIT), Pranab Sardar (IISER), Abhijit Pal (IIT), Madabusi Raghunathan (CEBS), Subhajit Dutta (IIT), Subenoy Chakraborty (Jadavpur University), Kingshook Biswas (ISI), Parameswaran Sankaran (IMSc), and Krishanu Maulik (ISI).

A new faculty member has joined in November 2016 and an UGC FRP faculty member has received research funding from DST. The Department moved to a dedicated space on the top floor of the Baker Laboratories, with modern facilities including one virtual classroom, in March 2017. This has been a major improvement in terms of infrastructure. A substantial revision of the Postgraduate syllabus was done with the help of the Board of Studies and an initiation to start the PhD programme with the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee has been taken. Among the final semester and recently graduated students, one has been selected at IISC, one at ISI and few at IITs. One Undergraduate student visited TIFR for a summer research internship. Another student has completed his Postgraduate thesis under the supervision of a researcher from ISI Kolkata. Apart from regular classes, the Department also arranges tutorials and discussions for students. The Department offers 10 GenEd courses as part of the CBCS at the Undergraduate level, in which students from other Science and Humanities Departments can choose courses based on their career needs.

Department of Physics

Faculty

Arabinda Nayak

Professor, Dean of Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences

Barun Raychaudhuri

Professor, Head of Department

Muktish Acharyya Professor

Somak Raychaudhury Professor (on lien)

Barnali Chakrabarti Associate Professor

Debasish Datta

Assistant Professor

Gour Bhattacharya

Assistant Professor

Rabindranath Gayen Assistant Professor

Ratna Koley Assistant Professor

Sukanta De Assistant Professor

Ritaban Chatterjee Assistant Professor

Saumyadip Samui Assistant Professor

Suchetana Chatterjee Assistant Professor

Kanan Kumar Datta Assistant Professor (UGC) The Department of Physics established in 1865 at Presidency College is one of the earliest Physics Departments in India. The Department was accommodated in a building named after Lieutenant Governor EN Baker on 20th January (Founders' Day), 2013. PLT-1, the majestic gallery-style Physics Lecture Theatre, recently renamed the Meghnad Saha Lecture Theatre, hosts regular classes and important seminars and academic programmes. The tradition of this Department includes balance of research and teaching, encouraging the students in choice-based interactive learning and showing them the immense scope for research in diverse fields.

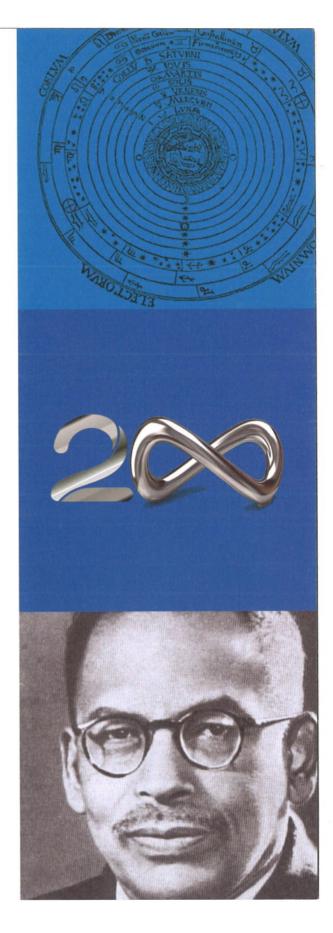
As part of the bicentenary celebration, students organised a students' symposium entitled, 'Precision 2017', on 8th–9th April, 2017. The faculty members conducted a 'School on Gravitational Wave Physics', on 12th–16th December, 2016, and an International Symposium funded by SKA India Project (DAE) was organised in December 2017.

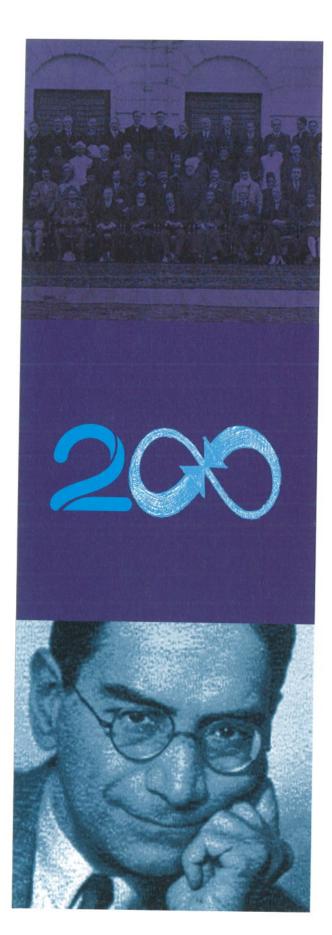
The faculty have published at least 20 research papers in peer-reviewed journals in the last one year and have 11 ongoing funded projects.

Two new Research Fellows joined the PhD programme.

In order to encourage Choice Based Credit System and to nurture the independent thinking of the students, project work and elective papers are offered in both Undergraduate Sem—6 and Postgraduate Sem—4.

Some students have published research papers in peer-reviewed journals. This year 6 Postgraduate and 8 Undergraduate students moved to different reputable institutes in India and abroad for higher studies. Continuous evaluation, interactive learning, guided visits to eminent laboratories/institutions, weekly colloquium etc are other components of the teaching methodology.





Department of Statistics

Faculty

Biswajit Roy, WBES Associate Professor, Head of the Department

Atanu Kumar Ghosh Assistant Professor

NV Krishna Chaitanya Yerroju Assistant Professor

Prasenjit Ghosh Assistant Professor

Radhakanta Das Assistant Professor

Saurav De Assistant Professor

Suman Guha Assistant Professor In 1944 the first Undergraduate Department of Statistics in the country was established in the Main Building to teach the BSc Honours programme of Calcutta University of which Presidency was a Constituent College.

It all started in 1931 when Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, the great statistician and national planner, started a laboratory for statistical research in the Baker Laboratories, which turned out to be the beginning of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), housed in a part of Baker Laboratories till 1951.

The Department of Statistics has organised several special lectures and a workshop this year. A five-day National Workshop was organised on 'Mathematics in the Arena of Statistics', 12th–16th December, 2016, for students. A talk on 'Alzheimer's Disease—An Overview of the Disease and its Treatment' was delivered by Dr Sourish Saha, University of Florida, on 23rd March, 2017.

Faculty research is borne out by international publications. The Department is in a position to start a PhD programme in Statistics; the first RAC meeting has already been held. Special classes, tutorials (informal) and consultancy are provided to students for better understanding of the topics.

Elective papers on contemporary topics and individual project dissertation have been introduced in the Postgraduate programme for better exposure in future research and for job prospects. The CBCS introduced in Statistics GenEd provides flexibility to the students in terms of personal interest in subjects of learning. Together with the chalk and talk method, electronic projectors are used regularly as teaching devices. Soft copy and hard copy of study materials are provided to the students.





Departmental Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and Invited Lectures/Lecture-Series

Department of Bengali

Lectures

30th August, 2017

Speaker: Dr Shamim Ahamed

Title: Mahabharater Rajniti O Naitikata

13th September, 2017 Speaker: Manoj Mitra

Title: Natake Ramayan-Mahabharater

Punarnirman

Seminar

6th September, 2017

Speaker: Dr Sanjay Mukhopadhyay

Title: Chaloman Chitramalay Sahityadharma

Department of English

16th-3oth October, 2017

Speaker: Professor Swapan Chakravorty

Title: i) The Humanities, the University and Illiberalism

ii) New Forms of Global Authoritarianism

iii) Why That Which Can't be Counted Counts

Department of Hindi

Premchand Interdisciplinary Lectures

2nd February, 2017

Speaker: Dr Souvik Mukherjee

Title: Games with Karma: Indian Board Games

as a Commentary on Life

8th February, 2017

Speaker: **Dr Piyali Mukherjee**

Title: 'Forgetting' Grandma: A Tale

of Fading Memories

22nd February, 2017

Speaker: Dr Somshankar

Title: On Mahabharata: History or Fiction?

2nd March, 2017

Speaker: Dr Satyabrat Sinha

Title: India and Pakistan: State-Society Relations

8th March, 2017

Speaker: Dr Ved Raman Pandey,

PhD (Calcutta University)

Title: New Poetry and 'Manjhi ka pul': Via Jnanpith

Awarded Poet Kedarnath Singh

29th March, 2017

Speaker: **Dr Shuhita Bhattacharjee**

Title: Hijab, the Search for Freedom, and the Meaning of Rebellion: The Case

of Marjane Satrapi's Persepolis

5th April, 2017

Speaker: Dr Hia Sen

Title: Who is the Child on Stage? Understanding Childhood through Theatrical Productions'

10th April, 2017

Speaker: Prof Heinz Werner Wessler

Title: Hindi Language and Literature: Between

Domestic Tongue and Global Language

A two-day workshop

3rd-4th May, 2017 Title: Manuscriptlogy

Department of History

Lecture

26th July, 2017

Speaker: Dr Nitin Sinha

Title: Who is (Not) a Servant Anyway? Domestic Servants and Service in Early Colonial India

Department of Performing Arts

Dance Lab

31st July-5th September, 2017

Experts: Guru Imocha Singh and Guru Navtej Johar

Department of Philosophy

A two-day workshop

24th-25th April, 2017

Keynote Speaker: **Prof Ramesh Chandra Pradhan** Hyderabad Central University & Senior Fellow, ICPR Other Speakers: **Prof Paremeshwar Rama Bhatt** (IIT-Bombay, Mumbai);

Prof Asha Mukherjee

in the 21st Century

(Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal); **Prof Ganesh Prasad Das** (Utkal University, Odisha); **Prof Vikram Singh Sirola** (IIT-Bombay, Mumbai); **Dr Bhaskarjit Neogi** (School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi),

Dr Pratitapaban Das (Ravenshaw University, Odisha); Prof Shashi Matilal (University of Delhi); Prof Ranjan Kumar Panda (IIT-Bombay, Mumbai); Prof Nirmalya Narayan Chakraborty (Rabindra Bharti University, West Bengal); Dr Vineet Sahu (IIT-Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh); Dr Barada Laxmi Panda (Presidency University, Kolkata) Title: Agency and Values: Ethical Challenges

Department of Political Science

Lectures

2nd February, 2017

Speaker: Prof Neera Chandhoke,

Department of Political Science, Delhi University

Title: Rethinking Secularism.

Nirmal Kanti Majumdar Endowment Lecture

1st March, 2017

Speaker: Professor Masaaki Ohashi

Title: Lessons of Fukushima

Panel Discussion

2nd February, 2017

Coordinator: **Prof Sanjukta Bhattacharya** Discussants: Prof Neera Chandhoke, Prof Manabi Majumdar, Prof Sanjeeb Mukherjee

Title: Religion in Indian Life

Department of Sociology

Lectures

20th January, 2017 Speaker: Dr Joe Devine Title: Social, Political and Anthropological Aspects of Development

9th August, 2017

Speaker: **Dr Nayanika Mookherjee**Associate Reader in Socio-Cultural Anthropology,
Durham University, UK, Author of The Spectral Wound
Title: **Sexual Violence**, **Public Memories and the Bangladesh War of 1971**

16th November, 2017

Speaker: Prof Anindya Dutta,

University of Virginia, USA

Title: Noncoding RNAs in Control of Differentiation and Cancer

Public Lecture and Conference

In collaboration with Apne Aap

24th-25th November, 2017

Speaker: **Prof Catharine Mackinnon** Other Speakers: **Soni Sori, Shandra Woworuntu** (USA), **Fatima Khatoon, Mumtaj Begum, John Dayal,**

Dr Asha Hans, Kumar Rana, Miguel Das Queah,

Dr Samita Sen, Malini Bhattacharya,

Dr Maroona Murmu, Prof Sakina Shahin,

Manisha Banerjee, Dr Asha Mukherjee,

Dr Nandini Ghosh, Shampa Sengupta,

Dr Satyajit Dasgupta, Rajib Halder,

Adv Salma Ali (Bangladesh),

Maleka Begum (Bangladesh), Ruchira Gupta

Title: On Child Labour, Sex-trafficking

and the Last Girl

Departmental Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and Invited Lectures/Lecture-Series

Department of Chemistry

Lectures

3rd-14th March, 2017 (Part of the Bicentennary Celebrations) Speaker: Dr Pratik Sen Title: Microsecond Protein Dynamics Probed at the Single Molecular Level

6th April, 2017

Speaker: Dr Rajarshi Chakrabarti

Title: Tracer Diffusion in a Sea of Polymers with Binding Zones and a Single Polymer Chain in Active Bath

Department of Economics

Lectures

14th February, 2017
Speaker: Dr Susmita Dasgupta
Lead Environmental Economist in Development and Research Group at the World Bank
Title: 1) Urban Flooding of Greater Dhaka in a Changing Climate: Building Local
Resilience to Disaster Risk
2) Minimizing Ecological Damage from Road Improvement in Tropical Forests

Series

8th-24th March, 2017 Speaker: Sarmila Banerjee Professor of Economics (Retd), University of Calcutta Title: Environmental Regulation Policies and Environmental Valuation Techniques

27th-31st March, 2017 Speaker: Dr Anindya Sundar Chakrabarti Title: Dynamic Models of Macroeconomics

12th July-1st September, 2017 Speaker: Dr Sourav Bhattacharya, Reader, Royal Holloway University, London Title: Voting and Social Choice

11th August, 2017

Speaker: **Debopam Bhattacharya**Title: **Endogeneity in Linear and Limited Dependent Variable Models**

21st-25th August, 2017 Speaker: Professor Anjan Mukherji Title: Fundamental Theorems of Positive and Normative Economics

28th August, 2017

Speaker: **Professor Ashok Banerjee**, Professor of Finance, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta Title: **GST: Is it so Good and Simple?**

16th October, 2017

Speaker: **Professor Ranajoy Bhattacharyya**Title: **International Trade and Economic Growth**

Entrepreneur Development Workshop

9th-1oth March, 2017
Inaugural Address: Krishna Gupta
IAS, Principal Secretary, IT and Electronics
Department, Government of West Bengal
Keynote Address: Vipul Parekh, Founder, Big Basket

A Seminar

24th August, 2017 Speakers: Anjan Mukherji, Professor Emeritus,

Jawaharlal Nehru University;

Manipushpak Mitra, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata; Asis Kumar Banerjee IDSK, Kolkata; Soumyendra Nath Sikdar IIM, Calcutta;

Students of the Department

Title: In Memoriam: Kenneth J Arrow, 1921–2017

A three-day workshop

13th, 14th and 16th October, 2017 Title: Big Data and Non-parametric Econometrics

Department of Geography

Lecture Series

5th-7th April, 2017
Speakers: Prof Anu Kapur (DSE)
Prof Sutheeshna Babu S (IIT & TM, Panaji)
Prof Annapurna Shaw (IIM Calcutta)
Prof Achin Chakraborty (IDSK)
Prof N Chandrasekar (MSU, Tirunelveli)
Dr Jenia Mukherjee (IIT, Kharagpur)
Dr Dhrubajyoti Ghosh (IIEST, Shibpur)
Sri Ratan Lal Biswas
Prof Saraswati Raju (CSRD, JNU)
Dr Anindita Datta (DSE)
Prof VS Kale (Pune University)
Dr Manoj Jaiswal (IISER, Kolkata)

Department of Geology

Lectures

7th September, 2017 Speaker: Dr Abdul Matin Title: Structures in the Darjiling—Sikkim Himalaya: A Reappraisal

Special Lectures

Speaker: **Dr Vikram Vishal**Title: **Geologic Carbon Storage: Opportunities and Challenges in Implementation in India**

16th September, 2017 Speaker: Prof SK Bhattacharya Title: Stable Isotope Geochemistry and Its Application in Natural Sciences

Student Workshop

15th September, 2017 Speaker: Dr Soumyajit Mukherjee Title: Ductile Shear Zone Kinematics

Department of Mathematics

Lectures

6th-19th January, 2017
Speaker: Professor MS Raghunathan
Head of the National Centre for Mathematics,
Distinguished Visiting Professor and NASI Platinum
Jubilee Chair, Department of Mathematics, IIT Bombay
Title: A Short Course on Arithmetic
Groups Seminar

14th September, 2017 Speaker: Prof MS Raghunathan Title: Fermat's Last Theorem—a Mathematical Treasure Hunt!



18th October, 2017

Speaker: Prof Nissim Kanekar

Title: Do the Fundamental Constants

Change with Time?

25th October, 2017

Speaker: Prof Satyaki Bhattacharya,

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics

Title: How Much Can One 'See' with a Single Quantum of Light at the Large Hadron Collider?

1st November, 2017

Speaker: Prof Kandaswamy Subramanian (IUCAA)

Title: Magnetizing the Universe

Lectures

30th August, 2017

Speaker: Dr Indrani Banerjee, IACS

Title: The Clandestine Universe: A Journey to the Enigmatic World of Hidden Dimensions

Department of Statistics

Lecture

23rd March, 2017

Speaker: Dr Sourish Saha

Title: Alzheimer's Disease: An Overview of the

Disease and Its Treatment

Public Lectures

13th February, 2017

Speaker: Mark McCaughrean

Senior Advisor for Science and Exploration

at the European Space Agency

Title: European Space Agency's Space Science and Exploration Missions

13th October, 2017

Speaker: Prof Bruce Alberts

University of California, San Francisco

Title: Learning from Failure: Life as an Education

Miscellaneous Events

An evening of live, original music

16th February, 2017

Participants: Varun Kishore, Alex Malseed and Davide Marini with Rivu and Tanaji Dasgupta

Title: A History of Clouds

Based on the poetry of Hans Magnus Enzensberger



