



**PRESIDENCY  
UNIVERSITY**  
KOLKATA



**NEWSLETTER**

**JUNE 2024**

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## **THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVES GRADE 'A' IN THE 2ND CYCLE OF ACCREDITATION WITH 3.13 CGPA**

Finally, it's time to cherish. Presidency University was awarded Grade A, with an improved CGPA of 3.13, in the second accreditation cycle by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council. The six-member peer team, chaired by Prof. Om Prakash Singh Negi, visited the institution from the 5th of June to the 7th of June, 2024. Here are a few glimpses of the three-day program



**Honourable Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, along with other stakeholders of the university, welcome the peer team members**



**Director, IQAC is presenting before the peer team**



The peer team meets the faculty members



The peer team visits the Second Campus at Newtown



The peer team and officials posing with the performers of the Cultural Program



The exit meeting at the third day of the visit

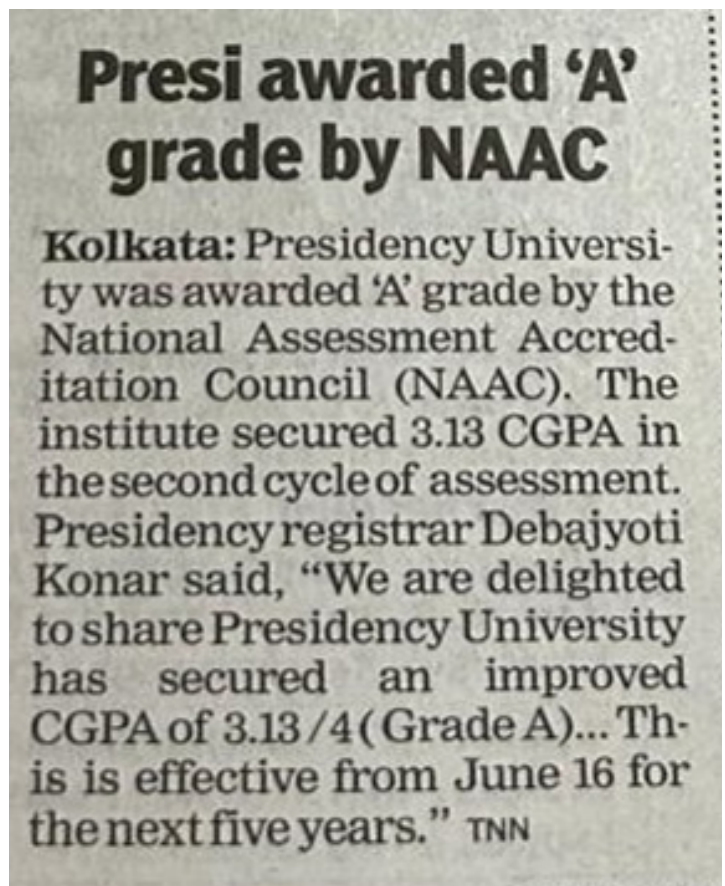


## ‘এ’ গ্রেড প্রেসিডেন্সির

18-Jun-2024, 3:15PM

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প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ন্যাশনাল অ্যাসেসমেন্ট অ্যান্ড অ্যাক্রিডিটেশন কাউন্সিলের (নাক) মূল্যায়নে ‘এ’ গ্রেড পেল। সিজিপিএ পেয়েছে ৪ এর মধ্যে ৩.১৩। আগের বারও প্রেসিডেন্সি এই মূল্যায়নে ‘এ’ গ্রেড পেয়েছিল। তবে এ বার সিজিপিএ বৃদ্ধি পেয়েছে বলে মঙ্গলবার জানানেন এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের রেজিস্ট্রার দেবজ্যোতি কোনার। তিনি আরও জানান, এই মূল্যায়নের বৈধতা থাকবে আগামী পাঁচ বছর। ২০১৭ সালের জুলাই মাস থেকে ২০২২ এর জুন সময়কালের সেক্ষ স্টাডি রিপোর্ট পাঠানো হয়েছিল। ওই সময়ের মধ্যে কোভিডের জন্য বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় বন্ধ ছিল বেশ কিছু দিন। রেজিস্ট্রার জানান, একমাত্র গবেষণা ক্ষেত্র ছাড়া সব ক্ষেত্রেই এই মূল্যায়নে প্রেসিডেন্সি পুরো নম্বর পেয়েছে। করোনা-কালে গবেষণাগারগুলি বন্ধ থাকার জন্য গবেষণা বেশ কিছুটা ক্ষতির সম্মুখীন হয়েছিল।



Media coverage of our achievement in this cycle of accreditation.

## **FOREIGN STUDENTS VISIT THE UNIVERSITY**

As part of a training program, students from premier foreign universities and two internationally esteemed debating coaches visited The Presidency University, Kolkata, for a heritage tour in correspondence with Presidency's student representatives co-working with the visitors at the Calcutta Debating Circle (CDC). The students and coaches were taken to visit the museum, along with the largest heritage chemistry lab in India and the legendary Geology department with state of art laboratories, which boasts to be one of India's oldest and most respected departments. The foreign visitors were astonished to witness the expanse and intellectual legacy of the Presidency campus. Presidency correspondents also took the visitors to the notably famous Hindu Hostel for a quick, guided tour.



(AS REPORTED BY SAMPURNA SANYAL, CONVENOR, PRESIDENCY DEBATING SOCIETY)

# EMBRACING CULTURE OF INCLUSIVITY



The US CONSULATE invited Presidency University for the celebration of PRIDE MONTH on June 24, 2024. It was the FILM SCREENING of “SHEER QOORMA,” a film by Faraz Arif Ansari, followed by a panel discussion and audience interaction on the “Embracing Culture of Inclusivity.” A total of 15 participants were sent to the US Consulate event from Presidency University, who actively participated in the event. The crowd comprised the Debating Society of Presidency University and other students of Presidency who were very interested in films and discussions.

**(AS REPORTED BY SAMPURNAA SANYAL, CONVENOR, PRESIDENCY DEBATING SOCIETY)**

# PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY GETS ANANDA SHIKSHA SHRESTHA SAMMAN 2024 BY ABP



The **Ananda Shiksha Shrestha Samman**, an initiative by ABP Ananda, is a prestigious award designed to recognize and honor educational institutions that have made significant and exemplary contributions to the educational and socio-economic development of Eastern India and beyond. This initiative aims to celebrate those institutions that not only achieve excellence in their field but also demonstrate a strong commitment to the growth and development of the region. Presidency University's recognition at the **Ananda Shiksha Shrestha Samman 2024** is a testament to its outstanding achievements and its substantial impact on the educational landscape of Eastern India. This accolade signifies that the university has not only excelled in its educational pursuits but has also played a pivotal role in advancing the region's development. This recognition underscores the University's commitment to excellence and its influential role in shaping the future of the region.



# **Dr. DEBANJAN MUKHOPADHYAY GETS HONORED AT THE 33RD GM OF WEST BENGAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**



Dr. Debanjan Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Institute of Health Sciences has been selected as an "ASSOCIATE" of the WAST from 2023 to 2028. Dr. Mukhopadhyay received this honor at the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the WAST, which was held on 15th June 2024 at the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB), Kolkata. He is an Assistant Professor at the Institute of Health Sciences researching the arena of host-pathogen interaction and Innate immunity.

# **COLLOQUIUM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

## **SPECIAL PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM**

On the 14th of June, The Department of Physics had Dr. Samriddhi Sankar Ray, ICTS Bengaluru, as the speaker in their colloquium series. He discussed the Kolmogorov entropy and its significance in the context of turbulence of different scales. Around twenty listeners gathered for the talk.

## **PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM**

The Department of Physics arranged a talk by Dr. Subhro Bhattacharjee, ICTS, Bengaluru, on 19th of June, 2024, at the Conference Room. Around twenty students and other faculty members attended the talk. Quantum spin liquids and their entropy was discussed in detail.

# **SPECIAL COLLOQUIUM AT THE SCHOOL OF ASTROPHYSICS**

## **EXTRACTING MAXIMAL INFORMATION FROM COSMOLOGICAL SURVEYS**



On the 12th of June, the School of Astrophysics had Prof. Arka Banerjee, IISER, Pune, for a talk titled “Extracting maximal information from cosmological surveys: The role of summary statistics”. Cosmological surveys provide detailed data about the universe across various wavelengths, raising key questions about its origin, fate, and composition. So vast amounts of data are compressed into "summary statistics" for comparison with theoretical models. This talk explored various summary statistics used in cosmology, such as N-point functions, 1-point PDFs, and Minkowski functions, highlighting their advantages and limitations. k-nearest neighbor (kNN) distribution was introduced as a novel and effective summary statistic, demonstrating its superior performance with current cosmological datasets compared to other methods. Additionally, it was shared how the kNN framework can integrate different summary statistics, facilitating a comprehensive quantitative analysis of their information content. The talk concluded with an overview of AI/ML advancements relevant to this field.

## CAN WE EMPOWER THE 3 BILLION YOUTH OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD?



On the 27th of June, Prof. Surajit Sen, Professor of Physics at SUNY Buffalo, gave a talk titled “Can we empower the 3 billion youth of the developing world?”. As a Jefferson Science Fellow with the US National Academies, he served as a Senior Science Advisor at the US Agency for International Development (USAID) during 2020-2021. His role involved examining how development challenges are tackled in practice. He observed that addressing simple issues, such as ensuring children receive education and stay engaged in school, required navigating a web of intertwined socio-economic, energy, mental health, and cultural factors. These problems are deeply interconnected, leading to emergent solutions. He shared insights from his hands-on experience in this complex development environment.

## **CHROMATOGRAPHY PATHSHALA**

The Chromatography Workshop titled "CHROMATOGRAPHY PATHSHALA" was held from the 18th to the 21st of June, 2024 at the Department of Life Sciences. The workshop included hands-on training on HPLC, GC-MS, and HEAD SPACE-SPME-GCMS. It featured a series of lectures, practical demonstrations and interactive sessions with experts in the field. The workshop began on 18th of June by an inauguration ceremony at P.C. Mahalanobis Hall, led by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Nirmalya Narayan Chakraborty, Registrar Dr. Debajyoti Konar, and Head of the Department Prof. Prabir K Mukhopadhyay. The introductory session was conducted by Prof. Mousumi Poddar Sarkar. The other speakers included Dr. Asish K Sen, Retired Professor Emeritus from IICB (CSIR) and Dr. P. Jaisankar, Chief Scientist & Head of Organic & Medicinal Chemistry at IICB (CSIR), Kolkata. The day concluded with Mr. Srijit Karmakar, Lead Engineer from Thermo Fisher Scientific, India, demonstrating GCMS & HPLC techniques.



On the second day, the speakers were Prof. Jhuma Ganguly, from the Department of Chemistry, IEST, Shibpur, Howrah and Dr. Arnab Goon, Application Specialist at Thermo Fisher Scientific, India



Participants were given hands-on training on SPME-HS-GCMS and HPLC practicing under the guidance of experienced resource persons.

On 20th of June sample presentation was followed by sample analysis with GCMS and HPLC .



A comprehensive session on data analysis and interpretation, problem-solving, and feedback took place on the final day. The participants provided positive feedback on the hands-on approach and practical training. The event, featuring expert lectures and practical sessions, concluded with handing over the certificates to all the participants and acknowledgments to DBT-BUILDER, SERB, and Thermo Fisher Ltd. for their financial support.

# PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY NSS CELL

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

NSS Cell, Presidency University (Unit I) celebrated World Environment Day on 5th June by promoting the idea of plantation and saving trees through displaying posters by the students on the notice board. The NSS volunteers also raised awareness on the theme of “Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience” in the campus of Presidency University. Unit III of the NSS Cell installed artificial bird nests around the campus to support bird diversity and population. These nests, which come in various forms and materials, provide alternative habitats for birds and other species. They are vital for conservation efforts, scientific research, and enhancing biodiversity.



## LAND RESTORATION, DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT RESILIENCE AT THE WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (WBPCB)



**Book Release on Land Restoration by WBPCB on Day 1 and Panel Discussion Session hosted on Day 2 of the event**

On June 10, 2024, 13 students from Presidency University, with faculty, attended the West Bengal Pollution Control Board's Golden Jubilee at Biswa Bangla Convention, celebrating World Environment Day. The event, themed "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience," featured speeches by Professor Sugato Bose and Additional Chief Secretary Roshni Sen, with Dr. Kalyan Rudra highlighting the need for surface water use over groundwater. The seminar included discussions on environmental issues, progress like noise pollution tracking, and the release of four volumes on Land Restoration, ending with a quiz on biodiversity and climate change.

On June 11, 2024, 11 students from the university attended a follow-up event for NSS newcomers, featuring panel discussions and paper presentations from Bose Institute of Technology and Research. Experts from various fields discussed environmental topics, and Dr. Rudra again stressed the importance of soil restoration for future generations.

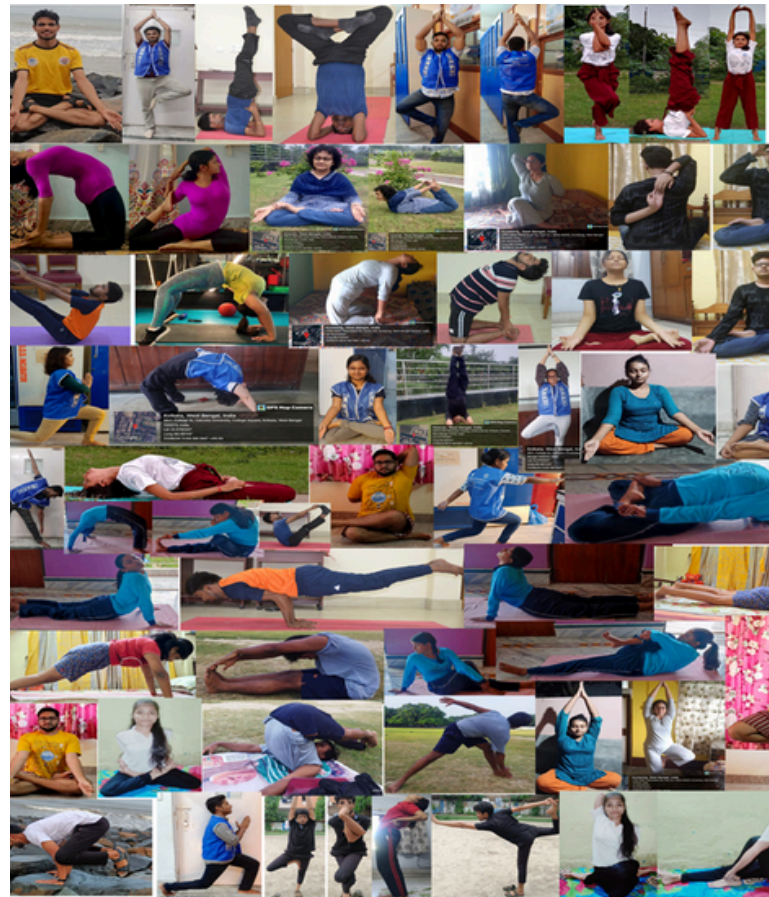


## SAVE WATER PROJECT THROUGH RAIN WATER HARVESTING



Water is a vital natural resource essential for life on Earth. With the growing population and climate change impacts, water conservation has become increasingly critical. To raise awareness about the importance of water conservation, on 3rd of June, 2024 Unit III of the NSS Cell at Presidency University organized an awareness program featuring a demonstration on rainwater harvesting. Dr. Suranjana Banerjee, Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, led the demonstration on the rooftop rainwater harvesting technique. Dr. Banerjee explained to NSS volunteers and other students how rooftop rainwater harvesting works, highlighting its benefits. This technique involves collecting rainwater from rooftops, which helps mitigate drought effects and provides water for irrigation.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA 2024 AT PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY



On June 21, 2024, the UN-designated International Day of Yoga was celebrated with a month-long series of events organized by the NSS Cell of Presidency University. The highlight was a 20-day Yoga training program covering 70 asanas, daily meditation, and pranayama techniques. On June 20, a Yoga competition was held, with Anup Yadav winning First Prize, Vikash Mishra Second, and Maithily Jha Third. The main event on June 21 featured a guest lecture by Sweta Basak, student presentations by Maithily Jha and Srishti Das, asana demonstrations, and a meditation workshop. During the semester break, student volunteers promoted Yoga through a poster campaign on social media. The initiative received a positive response from students across various locations.