



AARW NEWSLETTER

A quarterly publication of Anjamma Agi Reddy Engineering College for Women, Hyderabad

Issue No.3, July 2011

From the Principal's Desk

One academic year got over in a jiffy. We had guest lectures, regional intercollegiate debate and essay competitions, rangoli etc. The students (and staff) enjoyed a picnic at a resort on April 8. Traditional Day was celebrated. You had just three weeks of summer vacation. Some of you went to native place. Some visited tourist spots or holy places. Some stayed at home and relaxed while some started reading the next semester's books. A few even gave tuitions or took up other part time jobs. Some are happy with your performance in the examinations. Some are not so happy. Aim to excel in whatever you do, at the same time do not get depressed if the result is not satisfactory. Instead, see what else can be done to fare better in future examinations. There is a correlation between class attendance and the examination result - those who passed are also those with good attendance. So attend classes on all days of the week. Avoid distractions such as cricket/ cinema/ TV. Engineering subjects are complex. The key to master them lies in Time Management. If you do not understand the topic from one book, quickly see another book or the internet. Successful people are those who refuse to give up and continue to put in their efforts whatever be the circumstances. Good health helps in keeping up your spirit and efforts. For physical fitness, do three types of exercises: cardiovascular, strength and flexibility exercises. Use the stairs; do not queue up for the elevator. At least, walk as much as possible and take up household chores such as washing, cleaning and gardening, all of which serve as exercise and uphold the dignity of labour.

The population of India is 1.21 billion now. For every 1000 males, there are only 914 females, which indicates that women are not getting their due. The literacy rate is 82% in males and 66% in females. You are among the privileged few with an opportunity for engineering education with scholarship, tuition fee waivers and subsidized public transport. Hence make their best use. Otherwise it is being like a rich man throwing away the food in his plate while there are several persons starving.

In this issue, an interview with students on the *Status of Women* is presented, followed by impressions of Secretary, Mahaveer Education Society on his recent visit to USA. There are photographs from Picnic and Traditional Day celebrations. Our faculty members answer the question, "What makes a good teacher?" We end with developments "From far and near".

- Dr. Palanki Balakrishna

The other day, the editor had a chat with some I B. Tech students. He posed a few questions to them to elicit their views on the status of women which are presented here.

Participants: Sruti Mowdgalya, Neha Tarunnam, Ashwini Devi, Fehmida Bano, R Anusha, A Santoshi Kumari

What was an interesting event in your life?

At school, we went on a tour to Hampi, Vijaya Nagar and Thungabhadra dam. Though we had travelled quite a bit with our parents earlier, going with our class mates was a totally new fun-filled experience. We also visited an Art Gallery where our teachers explained the themes nicely. We played Kabaddi and Kho-Kho. Not just an event, the whole of our life is interesting.

What problems are being faced by women at home, at college, at work and in society?

In RTC buses, it is written “It is our tradition to respect women. Let them sit in the seats allocated to them”. However, in reality, the seats are occupied by men who never think of vacating them to help women. Marriages are forced on young women by elders thereby disrupting their studies and careers. There are SMS messages and eve teasing. There is harassment at workplace too. It is frightening to watch TV news channels showing attacks on women with knives and acid.

What are the advantages available to women over men?

There is 33% reservation for women in education. The income tax exemption limit for women is slightly higher than that for men. In certain spheres of activity and positions, women are more effective than men. We have women’s colleges, ladies special buses and local trains. As they do not go out, women spend more time in putting their house and family in order, which is a satisfying experience. Finally, the prospect of motherhood is a gift to women from God.

What are the advantages available to men over women?

Men are physically stronger than women and Mother Nature did not entrust them with the responsibility of carrying a baby. Men only can work in underground mines, safeguard the country’s hilly and cold borders and move in vast oceans. Men have more educational and social opportunities. In low income families, only the boys are sent to school, while the girls are trained in cooking and laundry. Men have a lot freedom and many more choices in life.

What changes in law may help?

Existing laws are not implemented! Domestic violence is viewed normal! When a woman was at police station to complain against her husband, the policeman asked, “If not your husband, who else will beat you?” and refused to register a complaint. The punishments should be made stiffer for crimes against women, especially in dowry deaths and honour killings. Priority should be given to women in queues at the railway reservation counter which existed earlier and later removed. By saving her time at the queue, she is available to her children for a longer time at home. Reservation for women in parliament has been pending for decades.

In what way men should change?

Men should stop cracking jokes which offend women. Men should view women with respect and treat them as equal. If wife has to call her husband “Meeru” instead of “Nuvvu”, the same rule

should apply to her husband too. In olden days, men only went out for work, while women cooked, washed and brought up children. But now, women too go out for work, but still the burden of domestic chores continues to be the same for women. Men should make a beginning by helping the women in their own families. Instead of looking at the Government for action, every man should make some effort towards justice for women.

In what way women should change?

Women should begin by sympathizing with other women and helping them out in difficult times. A mother in law should support her daughter in law. The lady of the house should treat her maid servant with kindness and allow her to use mixer and washing machine. There should be no discrimination between boys and girls in the same family in respect of education, facilities and opportunities. They should teach boys also to help in cooking and washing. Women should be bolder, step forward and nurture independent thinking. Women pamper sons at the cost of daughters. Ironically, it is the daughters who take care of parents in old age, while the sons try to send them to old age homes.

Who is your favourite woman other than your mother or sister?

After her husband died, Jhansi Lakshmi Bai fought valiantly against the British aggressors. Mother Teresa took care of orphans and the sick and old, who would otherwise be left to die on the road. Kiran Bedi is not only a brave person, but the prison reforms she made are unique in the world. She went much beyond the call of her duty, setting an example for others in service.

Who is your favourite role model among men other than your father or brother?

Mahatma Gandhi, who brought freedom to our country using a nonviolent approach, which is again a first in the world. APJ Abdul Kalam is another great man. While at school, he studied under street lamps and rose to the level of a great scientist and the President of India. What sets him apart from others is that, in spite of his hectic work schedules, he always found time to meet young people and inspire them. He is unassuming and approachable by all.

What are the similarities and differences between women of India and women from other countries?

The similarities are that women are discriminated against everywhere in the world. Even today very few women in the US rise to top positions and their pay is always less than that of a man. Most men have viewed women as toys and not as human beings with feelings and rights. The differences are that Indian women are more disciplined and dedicated to their work and to their families than their counterparts abroad. They are also more tradition bound. Though the literacy rate for women is low, the pass percentage is always higher for women in India whether it is in SSC or Intermediate or degree examinations. Indian women are more sacrificing in nature than foreigners. A mother gives up her needs and even career for the sake of her children. The women in developed countries seem to be very determined to reach their goal. Even under difficult circumstances, they do not give up their fight till the end. Elsewhere, women are worse off than in India. For example, in Saudi Arabia, women are not allowed to vote or to drive.

Oh, we want a new breed of men before India can be cleansed of her disease - Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949)

A memorable visit

I, better-half Shailaja and sons Sai Prasanna Reddy and Nitish Reddy (Class VI and V at Oakridge International School) arrived at New Jersey on May 19, 2011. Chairman's daughter Sri Vidya stays there. We visited Princeton University. Alumni of the past fifty years had gathered there on the same day. Later we went to several places including New York, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Atlantic City, 1000 Islands. The most exquisite place was of course, the magnificent and Niagara Falls. Then we reached Fort Lauderdale, Florida on May 31. Niece Praveena Reddy stays there. We visited several places in Orlando including Disney World, Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Hollywood Studios, Universal Studio, Island of Adventure and breath taking theme parks. At Miami, we went to the aquarium, Lion country safari and beaches. Our vacation coincided with the local school vacation. So there was appreciable rush everywhere. The striking feature of the country is the large number of universities and diversity of its population consisting of Whites, Blacks, Hispanics, Chinese, Indians, Japanese and several others. We returned to India on June 16, 2011.

- S Surender Reddy,
Secretary, Mahaveer Education Society

Toppers in I B.Tech Third Mid Semester Examinations

ECE: I Hasmath Sultana, II Sruti Mowdgalya, III Nelanti Priyanka

CSE: I Galwa Swetha Reddy, II Challa Mounika, III B Mahalakshmi

EEE: I B Soundarya, II C Priyanka, III S Anuradha

Prize winners at Picnic

Nightingale of AARW: Akula Akhila

Lucky student: Shahreen

Miss Fresher: Hashmat Sultana

Blind game: I Navya, II Nahid Sadia

Balloon Game: Hymavathi, Minu Mohan

Fruit in the flour: K Vineela

Lame Legs: D Mamatha I B.Tech ECE and B Priyanka I B.Tech ECE

Dance: D Mamatha I B.Tech ECE

Lucky Faculty Member: Mrs. Ratna Deepika, Asst. Professor, English

Musical Chairs for Faculty: I Mr. Shyam Prasad Reddy, Asst. Professor, II Sravanti, Librarian

An ode to the teacher

Twameva maataacha, pita twameva (You are my mother, you are my father)

Twameva bandhuscha, sakha twameva (You are my kin and you are my friend)

Tameva vidya, dravinam twameva (You are my knowledge, you are my treasure)

Twameva sarvam, mama deva deva (You are my every thing Oh God of gods)

Our Staff is our Strength



In the tender arms of Mother Nature



It is fun time!



Kabaddi kabaddi!



Always on a strong wicket!



Song and dance for an appreciative audience



Refuelling after a lot of games!



On the steps to success!



A little rest before next!



The crown goes only to one!



Memorable indeed!



Teachers' Forum

A panel discussion was held on 15.06.2011 to determine what makes a good teacher. The participants were Mrs. D Madhu Bala, Mrs. Y Madhurima, Mrs. K Ratna Deepika, Mrs. Lakshmi Savitri Vatsalya, Mr. Shyam Prasad Reddy and Mr. P Nooka Raju, all of whom are faculty members at AARW. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Palanki Balakrishna, Principal. The following are some of the points that emerged from the discussion:

A good (effective) teacher

- thinks from the student's point of view, understands the limitations of the student and makes efforts to address them
- is a good *speaker* as well as a good *listener*.
- *teaches* and simultaneously *learns* and upgrades his knowledge. His sources of information include the internet, other text books, handbooks, reference books, journals, conference proceedings and experiences of other teachers.
- puts the students on the correct path to reach their career goals, mostly by *setting an example* such as in punctuality, persistence and hard work.
- tends a variety of students, just as a gardener tends to different flowering plants.
- is fair to all with favouritism to none, treats with respect, understanding and affection both brilliant and other students
- does not restrict himself to only teaching. He adds *value* to a student's life by developing the personality. In addition to teaching, he guides students in social behavior, body language etc.

- motivates the student to speak and refrains from scolding or ridiculing the ignorance of the student.
- has a *connective capacity* with students and acts as a parent to the student providing convincing counselling.
- wins the *trust* of students so that they share their views and problems with him and get doubts cleared
- views every challenge as an *opportunity* and remains cheerful and stress-free.
- considers the opportunity and ability to serve as *gifts* from God
- fully appreciates the dignity of labour and is willing to take up *any* college job, without worrying about the status of the job.
- is not satisfied doing just what is told to him. On his own, he identifies and does all that needs to be done. He asks himself, “What else can I do to improve my class and my college?”
- never feels that he is doing some one else’s job or a lesser job.
- never postpone any job to the next day, as postponing would lead to several emergencies arising at the same time
- speaks directly to the class without consulting his notes or text book, having mastered the subject
- writes neatly and clearly on the board using correct letter size and in horizontal lines and without obstructing student view.
- gives freedom to students as to which topic is to be taken up first. *Choice* motivates students to participate better in the teaching learning process
- teaches every class in a *different* style that will rouse interest in students and gives breaks
- encourages the students to discuss freely in the class room, as it leads new ideas and keeps boredom away
- makes teaching *student centred* and learning *problem based*
- designs lessons to suit the not so brilliant students.
- takes the student from known to unknown and from familiar to unfamiliar concepts
- adopts interactive mode in the class and gives plenty of practical examples
- identifies and addresses learning difficulties of students
- makes students attempt previous papers gives tips to do well in the examinations and
- *welcomes* student feedback and modifies his attitude and methods
- gives out only *light* and no *heat*, that is, never gets angry
- does not believe in punishments of any kind, and uses motivational tools for improving student performance
- makes learning a most *enjoyable* and *memorable* experience in the life of the student
- inspires the student not only in the class room but in career and life as well
- is remembered by the student for a long time after leaving the college.

The best teacher is not the one who knows most, but the one who is most capable of reducing knowledge to that simple compound of the obvious and the wonderful which slips into the pupil’s comprehension - H.L.Mencken (1880-1956)

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires - William Arthur Ward (1921-1994)

Traditional Day Celebrations



Adding value to Kanchi, Pochampally & Dharmavaram sarees



United in tradition and aspirations!



With Sri Surender Reddy, Secretary, Mahaveer Education Society



*Let us not pray to be sheltered from dangers but to be fearless when facing them –
Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)*

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest – Benjamin Franklin (1705-1790)

*If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel
there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the mother, the
father and the teacher – APJ Abdul Kalam (b.1931)*

From Far and Near

A small step but a giant leap!

Bakelite was the first plastic material (1907). It was extensively used for telephones, radio cabinets, ash trays etc. Since then many more were developed, polyvinyl chloride, polystyrene, Teflon etc. Nylon is widely used in textiles and fishing nets. The emergence of plastics have reduced mans lust for wood and metal. Many women across the world have to walk miles to fetch water. Plastic buckets replaced metal ones and lessened their burden. While plastics have revolutionised the world, they have also choked it. Ingestion of plastic by land and marine animals has killed many. Instead of blaming plastics, we should use them more intelligently. Garbage collectors are doing a wonderful but back breaking job of segregating waste and enabling recycling. The GHMC has taken the first step and restricted the use of plastic carry bags less than 40 microns thick.

Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya!

40% of Indians have no access to grid electricity. Rice husk is burnt in controlled conditions to produce a combustible mixture of gases. The mixture is filtered and fed into an internal combustion engine that drives an alternator to produce electricity. A team headed by Gyanesh Pandey has been supplying electricity to people through 60 such systems (ranging from 35 to 100KVA) to 150000 rural households in Bihar, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. An additional two power units are expected to be added every week in 2011. Charred rice husks and ash, largely consisting of silica, is removed from the system using a hand-operated crank. It can be used for fertilizer or to make cement blocks, as well as being the raw material to create incense sticks. Agents hired by the firm to collect payments from customers for electricity also sell CFL bulbs, as well as other home needs. The inefficient kerosene lamps with health and fire risks are gradually replaced by CFL lighting with electricity from rice husk.

Auto-tune and Photoshop

Autotune is a computer programme that can correct the sound quality of musical recordings. It constantly monitors the pitch of the voice and compares it with the target pitch and corrects it. The correction rate can be set so that a correction is not easy to identify. Or, it can be set to correct a pitch in a way that makes a robotic sounding effect. The software enables skilled men and women to sing with full emotion and capture a magical performance. A great performance with a minor mistake can be corrected thanks to *Autotune*. *Adobe Photoshop* is an editing programme for digital images. The software enables a photographer to change the color, brightness, shape, size, and format of an image. You have more colours on your palette. It gives many creative choices. It can be used to remove and add elements or create an endless number of artistic effects. Two photos can be combined to give a 'painted' effect.

Need more IP addresses!

The world is going to face a shortage of internet IP addresses, unless it wakes up and overcomes its resistance to change. Since around 1980, the addressing system has been Internet Protocol version 4, which was designed to handle 4×10^9 addresses. When it was made, people thought that it was much more than enough. But then there was a dramatic increase in the use of the internet. Not just computers, but smart phones, cars, televisions, game systems and other devices connect to the internet. Each uses a different IP address. June 8 was World IPv6 Day when

hundreds of providers tested the new protocol on their web sites. It has a capacity of 3.4×10^{38} addresses.

Graphene

It is possible to combine two different materials without alloying, to make a composite material with vastly superior properties. Reinforced cement concrete, glass fiber reinforced plastic are examples. Aeroplanes, automobiles and even missiles have replaced metals with stronger and lighter carbon reinforced plastic materials. The University researchers at Sydney have now developed a paper thin graphene sheet that is 10 times stronger, 13 times more rigid in bending, six times lighter and two times harder than steel. Graphene sheet may eventually take the place of carbon fiber in composite materials.

WHO said it!

The World Health Organisation has now categorised mobile phones in the possibly carcinogenic list that includes caffeine and the deadly DDT. The concern is that extended contact with radiofrequency electromagnetic fields may increase a user's risk for glioma. Glioma is the most common form of brain cancer. Texting or using hands-free devices may help in keeping the phone away from the brain.

Neither carrots nor sticks work!

Corporate Managers are concerned as to how to motivate their employees towards better performance. Teachers are similarly concerned about their students. Carrots and sticks work very well when the tasks are simple or mechanical or repetitive. When it comes to complex and creative work, incentives do not correlate with performance. Findings at MIT and other places indicate that *autonomy*, *mastery*, *purpose* and *fun* at work motivate people to perform better, once the basic needs of *roti*, *kapda* and *makaan* are met. *Autonomy* is the desire to be self directed. *Mastery* is the urge to get better at work. *Purpose* is a sense of contributing to a personal, institutional or social cause. Employers are interested in candidates who have a certain mindset regardless of skill set.

– compiled by Dr. Palanki Balakrishna

Life is a movie, and you are the star. Give it a happy ending - Joan Rivers (b.1933)

Mahaveer Education Society

Chairman: Sri. S. Sudershan Reddy garu, Secretary: Sri. S Surender Reddy garu.

Anjamma Agi Reddy Engineering College for Women

Vyasapuri, Bandlaguda, Keshavgi PO., Hyderabad 500005.

EAMCET Code: AARW, JNTUH Code: 8P

Phone: (91) (40) 65810046. www.anjamma.ac.in

Principal and Newsletter Editor: Dr. Palanki Balakrishna, principal.8p@gmail.com