

The Gargi Pathfinder Award

This award has been instituted to promote originality, creativity, leadership skills, sensitive awareness of the natural and human environment and zeal for research and for contributing to the corpus of knowledge

This award shall be given in the following categories:

Science Award for the Best Research Project in Basic or Applied Sciences

Commerce Award for the Best Research Project

Humanities Award for the Most Socially Relevant Project

Guidelines:

1. The contest is open to all students of Gargi College on rolls during 2009-10.
2. Every Award is open to students enrolled in any stream, discipline or course. Students of B.El.Ed may submit an innovative pedagogical application and enter it for the Award in the Stream that the chosen subject seems to fit best.
3. Contestants may be single or a team (see stream-wise guidelines). In the case of team, one member shall be declared as 'team coordinator'.
4. Creative work plagiarized or downloaded from the Internet will be disqualified.
5. Every entry should be supervised by a faculty member within the college and this should be duly acknowledged.
6. Entry to the contest will be in three parts and will be judged at three stages:

Stage one: A blueprint/proposal/synopsis consisting of 500-1000 words should be submitted in computer print version in duplicate and as one soft copy to the respective conveners by 16th September, 09, along with a duly filled entry form. The entry form may be downloaded from the college website: www.gargicollege.in It is also available with the special P.A. to the Principal. It shall be countersigned by the faculty member acting as guide. Out of the above, three entries in each stream will be selected by a jury within the college as finalists and will be awarded a certificate and Rs.1000/- in cash. This announcement will be made by 25th September, 09.

Stage two: The finalists may now prepare their final submission. The final presentation should be in the form of an essay or a plan in 3000-4000 words (charts,

diagrams, bibliography etc., excluded). It should be submitted in five copies of computer print version plus one soft copy to the respective conveners by last week of January 2010. The submitted project should contain in its first page a declaration that the basic idea, substantial part of the work and the conclusions are original and not submitted elsewhere before. This declaration should be countersigned by the supervising faculty member. The nature of support provided by the guide should be acknowledged in the beginning of the work.

Stage three: The above-mentioned submissions will be judged by a jury outside the college, who will then be invited to the college for a face to face with the contestants during 2nd-3rd week of February 2010. At this stage, the contestants are required to make PowerPoint presentations, show a working experiment, a working model or an artistic item as specified in the stream-specific guidelines. This may be followed by a viva. The PowerPoint presentations should not be a mere repeat of the contents of the stage two submission. It should also not contain long texts, which are simply read out. The final award in each stream will carry a cash prize of Rs. 4000/- along with a citation and a certificate. It is hoped that all these may be given away during College Day to be held in end February, 2010.

Orientation for Aspirants: All students wishing to enter the contest should attend an orientation on 'Research Methodology' to be conducted by the faculty, tentatively on 12th August, 09.

Stream-specific requirements: Science Award:

1. The research project undertaken should be original or it should be a known concept that has been given extensions with a degree of originality. It may be in life sciences, physical sciences or based on technology.
2. It should have scope for application.
3. It should be investigational in nature or be a working model.
4. The contestant may use the facilities of laboratories and libraries outside Gargi College. These should be acknowledged. But project guide should be from Gargi College.
5. The synopsis presented in Stage One should include title, aim, proposed methodology and the applicable function.

6. Working models or the investigatory project should be accompanied by a 15 minutes presentation in Stage Three.

Commerce Award:

1. The primary data to be collected/researched may be in any of the following areas:
 - a) Management (including Marketing, Organizational Behaviour, HRM, b) Finance, c) Accounting.
2. Primary data may be combined with secondary data.
- 3.. The data should be analysed followed with original findings/suggestions/directions for change.
4. The findings etc. should have scope for practical application in the industry, be commercially viable and socially or culturally relevant.
5. Data may be analysed using quantitative or qualitative tools. Computer software may be used
6. It should be supported by complete studies that include sample questionnaires, surveys and references. All these should be acknowledged in appropriate places.
7. Each entry shall be by a single contestant or in a team of two only.
8. The PowerPoint presentation at Stage Three should be of 15 minutes duration only. It may be followed by a Q&A session.

Humanities Award:

1. The selection of theme has been left to the contestants(s) It could deal with any Humanities discipline that includes literatures in English, Hindi or Sanskrit or any political, social or cultural subject.
2. Stage Two submission should be an analysis in writing in English or in Hindi only.
3. In Stage three the submission should be accompanied by a creative presentation. This may be for example, a self-composed short story or poem OR a performative item such as an interpretative dance, original music, short film shot by the contestant or a PowerPoint.
4. The performative item should be of not more than 15 minutes duration.
5. Weightage will be given for originality or innovation, feasibility, applicability and sustainability of the suggestions/conclusions, extent of outreach, optimum utilization of resources and expression skills. If the project is a literary analysis, then assessment will be on the freshness of interpretation and social/cultural relevance of the perceptions.

Members of the Faculty in Charge of the Awards:

Science Award:

Dr. Aruna Mohan, Department of Zoology (Convener)

Dr. Indu Sidhwani, Department of Chemistry

Dr. Surabhi Srivastava Department of Microbiology

Dr. Gita Mathur, Department of Botany

Dr. Alka Garg Department of Physics

Commerce Award:

Dr. Geeta Siddharth, Department of Commerce (Convenor)

Dr. Nidhi Gupta, Department of Commerce

Humanities Award:

Ms. Shashi Mutatkar, Department of English (Convenor)

Dr. Manjeet Singh, Department of Political Science

Dr. Meenakshi Jain, Department of History

Dr. Rekha Navneet, Department of Philosophy

Ms. Veena Sharma, Department of Hindi

Dr. Anajana Dev, Department of English

Ms. Aparna Joshi, Department of Elementary Education

Finalists and Winners of 2008-09

Gargi College Pathfinder Award Winners & Finalists - 2008-09

Science stream

Name	Class	Project Title	Teacher Supervisor
Sneha Datta WINNER	Botany (H) III yr.	Microbiological and Physical Analysis of the Sacred Sarovars (Holy Water Tanks) of Kurukshetra and its Implication on Public Health	Dr. Gita Mathur
Komal Taneja Cheshtha	Botany (H) III yr. Chemistry (H) III yr.	Radioactive potential of plants transforming death to life	Dr. Gita Mathur
Kumud Dhanya	Zoology (H) III yr. Zoology (H) III yr.	Finding and using plants, their commonly available Microbes as scaranger for heavy metal ions	Dr. Aruna Mohan
Jaya Sakina	Zoology (H) III yr. Zoology (H) III yr.	Disease causing microscopic-organism in various water bodies	Dr. Neelam Sachdeva
Pooja Richa	Zoology (H) II yr. Zoology (H) II yr.	Estimation of Respiratory volume under various physical and physiological conditions in human being with the help of Spirometer	Mrs. Uma Ganguly
Rashmi Reema	Physics (H) III yr. Physics (H) III yr.	Fiber optics Microbend sensor	Dr. Alka Garg
Richa Bhawana	Physics (H) III yr. Physics (H) III yr.	Synthesis & characterization of Mano crystalline material for cleaning technologies	

Commerce stream

Shelly Tevatia Tanushree Tangri Bhagyashree Prabhakar Aakriti Choudhary WINNER	B.Com.(H) I & III yr.	Innovative Business Proposal: Carbo India Enterprise Ltd.	Ms. Sheela Dubey
Ankita Singh Shruti Sharma Vaishali Khattar	B.B.E. III yr.	Innovative Business Proposal: Sofzeit Co.Pvt.Ltd.	Dr. Geeta Kichlu
Nisha Rai	B.A.(P) I yr.	Innovative Business Proposal: Daisy's Women Healthcare Centre	Dr. Sangeeta Jerath Ms. Antara Bhatia

Humanities stream

Payal Chandra Suvarna Menon WINNER	B.A.(H) Applied Psychology II yr.	Body Image: Its impact on Self Esteem: A study	Dr. Neera Pant
Kaveri Trehan Teesta Ranjan	B.A.(H) Philosophy III yr.	We, the second sex	Dr. Rekha Navneet
Aditi Sharma Niharika Kochar Thangblakching	B.A.(P) III yr.	Another Brick in the Wall: Improvements in Education Policy	Ms. Rashmi Bhardwaj

Abstract of the Winning Projects of 08-09:

1. Commerce: Innovative Business Proposal

Carboindia Pvt. Ltd. Go green . . .

CARBOINDIA is an environment friendly engineering company undertaking turnkey projects for overcoming problems arising due to solid, liquid and gaseous pollutants which are the result of high economic growth, industrialization and the use of nuclear energy. The company will strive to offer its clients the most advanced equipments available at low cost with free consultancy and engineering services. The whole concept is based on the idea of developing "Clean Technologies" in order to implement system process improvements, promote energy efficiency and provide significant carbon reduction. Carboindia also plans to develop synergies with similar organizations throughout the country in the near future. The mission of the company is to deliver outstanding client service in the areas of environmental protection, safety and environmental risk management.

2. Science: Best Project

Project Title: Microbiological and Physical Analysis of the Sacred Sarovars (Holy Water Tanks) of Kurukshetra and its Implication on Public Health

Student: Sneha Datta

Class: Botany (H) III yr.

Teacher Supervisor: Dr. Gita Mathur

Abstract:

Kurukshetra, 160km north of Delhi is a religious city with temples. All major temples have water tanks called Sarovars where devotees take a holy dip. This project was an endeavor to determine the suitability and safety of these sarovars for carrying out the rituals. Studies were conducted on water samples from seven sacred sarovars. Investigations included: (A) Microbial assays including total bacterial count, total fungal count, total actinomycetes count, yeast count, coliform count and *E. coli* count; (B) Physical assays for colour, odour, pH, titrimetric estimation of salinity, chlorinity, dissolved oxygen and dissolved carbon dioxide and (C) Chemical analysis for Zinc, Copper, Cadmium, Manganese, Iron, Lead and Chromium. The results were recorded, tabulated, analysed, histograms made, well documented with self clicked photographs and a detailed report was submitted.