

WDC Activities organised in academic year 2019-20

K J Somaiya College of Engineering

As an educational institution, KJSCE plays a key role in the development of relevant and innovative programs to students in the field of engineering. Both the student body and staff work in the environment that fosters the full utilization of knowledge, skills, and talents of each member. KJSCE believes that gender equity is a human right and promotes equality to ensure that no members face discrimination and harassment based on their gender.

As a part of this initiative to promote gender equity amongst the students, teaching and non-teaching community, KJSCE provides basic facilities like Counseling facility, Common room for girls, separate washrooms for women, Sanitary Pad vending Machine, Medical Centre inside the college and campus as well. From the security perspective, the college has engaged male as well as female security cleaning staff.

To enhance women's empowerment, rights, and provide good quality education to the students, KJSCE has been in the forefront of organizing several women centered events during the academic session. College has a separate Committee named "Women's development cell" (WDC) which organizes special lectures to promote Gender Equity. Few of the activities are listed below.

Title of the programme	Period (from-to)	Participants
A lecture on "Awareness about Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace" at Sakarben Auditorium, KJSCE.	August 22, 2019 3.15 pm – 5.00 pm	FY Students (No discrimination on basis of Gender)
Organized a Yoga Orientation session for Teaching and Nonteaching staff by the Trainers of AAYUSH (Govt of India certified) Sansthan.	February 14, 2020, 5:00 pm- 6:30pm	Open for all (35 Participants)
Women's Day Celebration (Naari 2020) at Sakarben Auditorium, KJSCE.	March 5, 2020	Open for all 400 participants

	3.15pm -	
	5.15 pm	

Activity-1: To spread awareness about Sexual Harassment and gender equality amongst the student body and staff members, KJSCE organized a lecture on “Awareness about Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace” as a part of the FY Induction Program for first year.

Activity-2: To make the life stress-free and healthy of their members, KJSCE Organized a Yoga Orientation session for Teaching and Non-teaching staff by the Trainers of AAYUSH (Govt of India certified) Sansthan. They enlightened the importance of YOGA and how to live a healthy life.

Activity 3: To enhance women empowerment and promote gender equality among the students KJSCE organizes Women’s Day celebration every year at the Sakarben Auditorium in the campus. To add to the grace of the occasion three eminent guests were invited.

1. Dr. Pallavi Naik, Ph.D. in Bharatanatyam. She teaches Bharatanatyam as a therapy to the mentally challenged people. She shared her experiences working as a Bharatanatyam teacher for mentally challenged and children with special needs. Her beautiful and inspiring speech got a standing ovation from the audience.
2. Ms. Amruta Mane, the founder of Women on Wheels, a non-profit organization. She shared her insightful journey of how she led the rally called “She can Ride” and was followed by approximately 220 women to spread awareness about road safety.
3. Ms. Anisha Dixit, one of top youtubers of India. A question and answer session was conducted with one of the most popular youtubers Anisha Dixit, formerly known as Rickshawali. She shared our experience with all participants that how she becomes most popular youtubers of India.

To motivate the girl students, we recognize their outstanding performance and achievements. A photo session was also arranged in the lobby of the Aryabhata building which was based on the theme “Her Time to Shine”. Many students, faculty and staff expressed their opinions about women empowerment theme. Apart from the celebrations, there is equal participation of girls in several technical and non-technical committees, events and councils like Student council, EESA, BloomBox, ISTE, etc.

K J Somaiya Institute of Management

Women's Development Cell of KJ Somaiya Institute of Management is a vibrant and incessantly active collaboration of students, faculty, and staff; endeavouring to create a more inclusive, tolerant and gender sensitized community within campus as well as in society.

Events conducted this academic year 2019-20 by WDC

Self-defence workshop:

Self-defence workshop is conducted by renowned Martial Arts trainers every year. In this year we hosted self-defence Krav Maga workshop conducted by Vishwesh Joshi. The workshop is conducted to build confidence in both women and men to tackle unexpected situations. It is aimed at enlightening people on how to defend themselves in times of danger and save their lives.



Poets of Peace

It was a Poem competition held for the students of KJ SIM. The participants had to write a poem about attacks, racism, sexual harassment, child labour, crimes going around in the world. The moto of the competition was to make World a Peaceful Place. In round 2 the qualified participants had to make a video of themselves reciting their poem.

NGO Visit

Team WDC successfully arranged an NGO visit to Shishu Bhavan, Vile Parle West. It is an NGO for special children aging between 3-14 years old who requires lot of love and care. The Team spent an playful day with the kids which lead to a life changing and heart-warming experience. We had an interactive session with their Caretakers/sisters to understand their special needs and challenges. Also, The Team donated toys, food items, healthcare supplies for the children.



Manasvini 2020

Every year around 1st week of March for the entire women's week we conduct Manasvini.

Gender Equality

This session kicked off our theme "Samaanta" for Manasvini 2020. This keynote session on 'Gender Equality' was given by Ms. Deepa Soman, Founder and Managing Director of Lumiere Business Solution. Ms Deepa Soman spoke about her journey and talked about the importance of learning about Gender Equality right from our childhood. She spoke in great detail about how essential it is for our generation to raise kids who are informed and create a society where gender equality does not exist.



Superwoman of My Life

Superwoman of My Life was an online competition conducted during Women's week this year. It was a photo story contest, where participants were required to submit a photograph of any woman in your life who has inspired you along with a story/poem/caption/quote. The submissions were also expected to be posted on social media. The assessment was based on the quality of content and the number of likes received.

Stem cell donation

Stem cell donation camp was held in collaboration with Datri organisation. Datri is a Non-profit organisation and India's largest unrelated blood stem cell donation registry. It aims to spreading the cause to save the patients with blood disorders, as we never know if we could

have been a match and saved an another ansh somewhere in the world. We had donors not just from KJ SIM but also from other institutes in the campus



Cyber Abuse and Security Workshop

Cyber Abuse and Security workshop was held by Women Against Cyber Abuse Foundation (WACA). The attendees were given an overview of the cybercrime faced by students and the realities of morphing and body shaming on social media. The students were further guided on how to file complaints and were also encouraged to pledge to stand up to cyberbullying and harassment.



MadAD

It was an ad making competition with the theme of equality. In the first round teams had to submit a creative (video/poster) based on which teams were selected for second round where they were given on spot challenge to come up with 5 creatives (Name, logo, tagline, unique feature and an ad) for a dating app making it a more safer option in today's world.





EkQuality

The concept of this competition was to portray the Equality in our society through performing arts like dance, drama, poetry, visual arts or any other art. Performing art was judged based on the criteria of how unique the idea was to the judges and how much impact the art made on the Audience. It was a very unique competition and also all the artist made a very powerful performance of depicting the 'Equality in our society' through various struggles and also some discrimination which is to be ended by each and every one of us.



Manasvini 2020 was also covered by the Free press journal on the online cover. Link to which is as follow:

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/business/event-corner/kjsim-celebrates-womens-day-with-manasvini-2020>

K J Somaiya College of Education

Panel discussion on ‘Safety of Women in India’

On 14th December, 2019 a panel discussion was organised for the F.Y.B.Ed as well as S.Y.B.Ed students of the college. Dr. Santwani welcomed the esteemed panelists Senior Police Inspector Kusum Waghmare, Social Activist Supriya Sonar and Mumbai High Court Lawyer Lara Jesani.

Inspector Waghmare initiated her speech saying that she has handled a lot many cases of domestic violence against women throughout her career. Ms Waghmare threw light on the issues related to POSCO ,FIR and other areas in achieving justice for women or girl children. she mentioned about the lack of powers in the hands of Police to achieve justice for the victims.

Supriya Sonar spoke about root cause of ill treatment against women. She spoke about the rape cases and the fact that the society blamed the girls for being a victim of rape. She stressed the need to change the mindset of people in blaming the girl encouraging rapists. she mentioned of having proper sex education for teens and young adults as one of the solutions

Lara Jesani, an experienced lawyer from Mumbai High Court threw light on the constitution itself being a gendered document. Her critical speech stressed on need for eradicating Patriarchy and toxic masculinity. She also discussed about Criminal major acts, protection of women, immoral traffic act and sexual harassment of women at workplace. Overall the session was interesting and captivating as the theme itself was very relevant to the audience.

Faculty development initiatives

University Women Development Cell organized a one day training workshop for Chairpersons of College WDC and Presiding Officer of College ICC on on 27-09-2019. The theme of the workshop was Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment on Campuses: Challenges of the WDC and ICC. Dr Rupal Thakkar and Ms Usha Sharma attended the

program. The Host College was Gurukul College of Commerce, Ghatkopar. Dr. Gita Chadha, Chairperson, UWDC and Dr. Meher Bhoot, Member-Secretary, UWDC were the organisers of the event. The speakers enlightened about the concept of Gender Discrimination as well as threw light on Sexual Harassment Act. Overall the session made the attendees active where the teachers of different colleges read the legal document of Vishaka guidelines and made presentation of the different rules mentioned. It was a very enlightening experience.

Workshop on ‘The Sexual harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 for ICC members of different colleges

On 4 May 2019 the Legal & HR Department of Somaiya Vidyavihar took the initiative to conduct a workshop on 'The Sexual harassment of women at work place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013' at Somaiya Ayurvihar Campus for ICC (Internal Complaint Committee) members of all Trusts, colleges, schools & Hospital. The speakers for the session were Shri. Lancy D'Souza, Advocate, a prominent Labour Advocate of Mumbai and his Colleague Ms. Deepika Agarwal, Advocate. The aim was to enlighten our ICC members with their knowledge of Sexual harassment of women at work place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013'. Dr Sarla Santwani, Dr Rupal Thakkar, Ms Usha Sharma as well as Dr Manisha Gawde from our college could attend the workshop. Adv Dsouza began with the definition of work place & aggrieved women. He spoke on the Principles of Natural Justice and will discuss on the Supreme Court Judgements. Adv. Deepika Agarwal spoke on the information about the Act.