

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 one each in **Sciences, Commerce** and **Humanities**.

General Guidelines: (Apart from general guidelines, candidates should also consult stream-specific requirements given below)

1. The contest is open to all students of Gargi College on rolls during 2010-11.
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, 10, 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. 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 24th September, 10.

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 2011. 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 2011. 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 submissions. 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, 2011.

Orientation for Aspirants: All students wishing to enter the contest should attend an orientation on “Research Methodology” to be conducted by the faculty in August 2010.

Stream-specific requirements:

Science stream:

1. The proposal can be in basic or applied area of physical, biological or environmental science
2. The proposal may address any scientific query and subsequently should provide an answer or attempt to answer the query.
3. The ideas must be original, logical and scientifically feasible.
4. Implementation of proposal should be experiment based and not hypothetical.
5. Contestants may be single or a team of two only.
6. Contestants may use the facilities of laboratories and libraries outside Gargi College. These should be acknowledged. However the supervisor/guide should be one faculty member with the college only and this should be duly acknowledged.

Stage one: A single copy of proposal (500-1000 words) should be submitted in computer print version to the convener and soft copy should be mailed at pathfinder.gargi@gmail.com by 16th August 2010*. The hard copy of entry form, duly filled, must be submitted along with the proposal. The entry form may be downloaded from the college website: www.gargicollege.in. It is also available with the senior P.A. to the Principal. The following points may be noted:

- At the time of submission of proposal, supervisor’s name/signature should not be disclosed..
- The proposal should include title, aim, proposed methodology, expected outcome and significance of the expected outcome.
- Depending on the number of entries, there may be short listing of finalists

Stage two: The selected candidates (after preliminary screening) would be required to submit their project report as detailed below:

1. The report must be conveyed in 3000 - 4000 words. Apart from the text, charts diagrams, bibliography may be included .These will not be counted in the word limit.
2. Five copies of project report should be submitted in computer print version to the convener
3. A soft copy of the report should be mailed to pathfinder.gargi@gmail.com by 15th December 2010*.
4. The first page of the report should contain 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.
5. The nature of support provided by the guide as also any other organization or person should be acknowledged in the beginning of the work.

Stage three: See general guidelines

Commerce Award:

Each entry should be by a single contestant or in a team of two only.

Stage One: The applicant should identify a problem or an issue existing in the current business or economic environment and try to find a solution.

A synopsis should be presented (see general guidelines) which should include title, aim/objective, rationale, proposed methodology, theoretical framework, related studies, bibliography and scope of the study.

Stage Two: The final submission should meet the following requirements:

1. The solution must be innovative, feasible, practical, commercially viable, and sustainable and ensure optimum utilization of resources. The solution must focus its effects on business, economic and social environment.
2. The findings from the research work have to be supported by appropriate data.
3. The data may be qualitative and/or quantitative. It can be primary and/or secondary as per the requirement of the study.
4. Data may be analyzed using quantitative and/or qualitative tools. Computer software may be used.
5. All references, data, sources, bibliography, websites, related studies must be duly acknowledged. Web addresses must be given in full and time of access should be provided. Questionnaires, if used, should be enclosed.

Stage Three: A Power Point presentation is to be made in front of the judges. It should be of 15+5 minutes duration only. Students should be ready to answer any questions to be put forth by the judges.

Humanities Award:

1. Contestants may be single or a team of a maximum of three participants.
2. The submission may be in English or in Hindi.
3. Interdisciplinary projects would be highly appreciated.
4. This year the organizers suggest a theme that contestants may like to consider, which "Reinventing Tradition" is. An existing text, mythology, legend, history, ideology, may be reworked in a new medium to bring out a new perspective or they may be adapted in such a way as to state or question contemporary relevance.

Participants would be familiar with two examples of attempts at "reinventing tradition": 1) A.R.Rehman's composition 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' which can be seen as a very contemporary rendering of 'Vande Mataram'. 2) Prakash Jha's recent film *Rajneeti*, a very contemporary interpretation of *The Mahabharata*.

The following are some areas/themes/media that contestants can consider for developing an innovative project: Nationalism, Mythology, Music, Folk art forms, Toys, Dance, An Eco-friendly kitchen, The Unstitched Indian Garment. Of course these are only broad suggestions. Many more ideas are possible.

5. **Stage Two** should carry a researched history of the tradition that you have chosen to explore and reinvent.
6. 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 debate/dialogue. Power Points are not desirable.
7. The performative item should be of not more than 15 minutes duration.
8. 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. Supreeti Das, Department of Physics (Convener)

Dr. Neelam Sachdeva, Department of Zoology

Dr. B. Vijayanthi, Department of Chemistry

Dr. Shashi Chawla, Department of Microbiology

Dr. Aparajita Mohanty, Department of Botany

Commerce Award:

Dr. Kiran Batra, Department of Commerce (Convener)

Ms. mandakini Das, Department of Commerce

Humanities Award:

Ms. Shashi Mutatkar, Department of English (Convener)

Dr. Renu Maira, Department of History

Dr. Manjeet Singh, Department of Political Science

Dr. Sunita Gupta, Department of Sanskrit

Dr. Preeti Pant, Department of Psychology

Ms. Arshmeet Kaur, Department of Mathematics

Dr. Deepika Chatterjee, Department of Philosophy

Ms. Aparna Joshi, Department of Elementary Education

Finalists and Winners of 2009-10
Gargi College Pathfinder Award

Humanities Stream Name	Class	Project Title	Teacher Supervisor
Ritika Upasana Neha WINNER	B.Com. (H)	Begging: The Popular Street Culture in India	Ms.Shatrupa Sinha
Kritvi Kedia Shreya Dutt	B.A.(H) Applied Psychology 2 nd year	Understanding “caring, sharing and hiring”: Behaviors of the youth for Empowering Young People	Dr. Neera Pant
Mridual Kataria Prakriti Gupta	B.A.(H) Applied Psychology 3 rd year	The Missing Discourse of Sexual Desire: Adolescent Girles' Identity and Awareness	Dr. Sangeeta Bhatia

Science Stream Name	Class	Project Title	Teacher Supervisor
Anju Sharma Alka Singh Sapna Bansal WINNER	B.Sc.Life Sc.III year B.Sc.(H) Chemistry II year	Removal of Toxic Textile dyes using Aqueous Biphax system & replacement of Synth dyes by natural dyes	Dr.Sushmita Chaudhary Dr.Sushma Bhan Dr. Renu Aggarwal
Anupama Srijani	B.Sc.(H) Microbiology III year	Isolation of Bacteria	Dr. Shashi Tyagi
Gurpreet Kaweri Neha	B.Sc.(H) Physics III year	Energy for ever	Dr. Vandana Luthra

Commerce Stream Name	Class	Project Title	Teacher Supervisor
Megha Bahl Preeti Mann WINNER	B.B.E. III year	A Study of impact of socio-economic factors on a student's decision to pursue higher education.	Ms. Anjani Anand
Radhika Mrinal	B.Com. (H) II year	Impact of Micro financing on Women Empowerment	Ms. Aashima
Nisha Rai Megha Nath	B.A.(P) II year	Employee Turnover: A Cause of Concern	Dr. Sangeeta Jerath