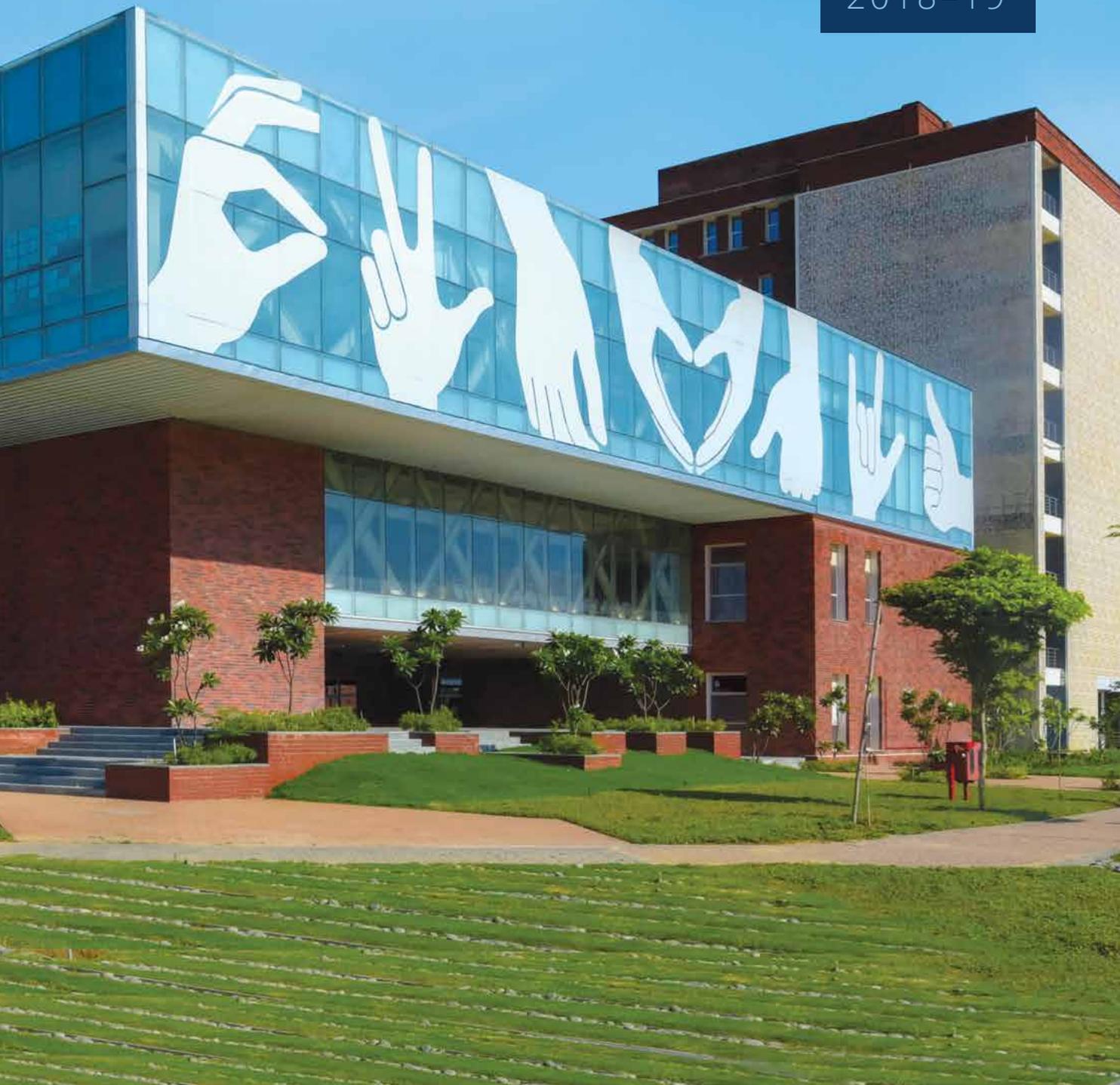




ASHOKA
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL
REVIEW
2018-19





*Ashoka University
is named after Emperor
Ashoka (c. 304 - 232 BC)
who represents India's
highest values and ideals.
The expanding universe of
multidisciplinary education
is depicted through an
intersection of arcs that
reflect the creation
and synthesis of
diverse knowledge.*

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06	Letter from the Chancellor
08	Letter from the Vice-Chancellor
10	The Undergraduate Programme
22	Ashoka Scholars Programme
24	The Young India Fellowship
36	Student Services – Offices and Centres
44	Centres at Ashoka
58	Young Scholars Programme
59	Master’s and PhD Programmes
61	Faculty Research
66	Inclusion, Diversity & Social Impact
67	International Partnerships
68	Student Life
69	Sports
72	The Chief Minister’s Good Governance Associates
74	Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India
75	Ashoka Alumni Association
78	Campus
80	Governance
84	People

INDEX





Dear members of the Ashoka family,

I write to introduce to you the Annual Report of the University for the year 2018-19. This year has been somewhat momentous because in the beginning of July 2019 the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Pratap Bhanu Mehta announced his decision to step down from his position as he wanted to free himself from his administrative responsibilities and pursue his scholarly calling. Somewhat reluctantly, we had to accept his decision. After due deliberation in the Governing Body we appointed Professor Malabika Sarkar as the third Vice-Chancellor of Ashoka University from 1 August. Professor Sarkar had been the Vice-Chancellor of Presidency University and then the Principal Advisor (Academic) to the first and second vice-chancellors of Ashoka. We believe that with her at the helm of affairs, Ashoka is in very safe and capable hands.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming the new Pro Vice-Chancellor Mr Rajesh Garodia, who comes from a corporate background and brings new energy to the administrative and non-academic side of Ashoka. He joined from 1 July.

The present campus is on the last stages of completion. We have also acquired another plot of nearly 25 acres which is across the road from the present campus. The building of the second campus should start very soon.

Ashoka continues its journey to become one of the best universities in India. We have started undergraduate teaching in Physics and Biology. And we will start Chemistry soon. We have begun a master's programme in Economics and PhD programmes in a number of subjects. Our undergraduate teaching programme and our Young India Fellowship programme continues to flourish and win laurels.

The work of building Ashoka thus continues apace and I urge you to join the process in whatever ways you can. Even words of encouragement, guidance and constructive criticism are valuable contributions.

I would like to end this letter by specially thanking three Founders for their outstanding service and support to Ashoka. I thus doff my cap to Sid Yog, Rahul Mookerjee and Amit Chandra.



Yours sincerely,
RUDRANGSHU MUKHERJEE
Chancellor



Dear friends & colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2019 Annual Report of Ashoka University. This slim volume is a window into the world of Ashoka today. Text and images together seek to record the aspirations and achievements of the year gone by. Faculty, students and staff at Ashoka are committed to working together to create the finest University in India. The support and encouragement of the Founders and friends of Ashoka provide the enabling foundation on which this vision can take shape.

This year has seen the strengthening of the core disciplines with which Ashoka began – the Humanities, the Social Sciences, Economics and the Mathematical Sciences. The Natural Sciences, recently introduced, have established their own identity within the Liberal Arts space, reminding us that a Liberal Arts University is not complete without the basic sciences. As Ashoka progressively establishes itself as a research university, teaching and research enrich each other. This University now has the unique distinction of having peer reviewed research publications with faculty and undergraduate students as co-authors.

Ashoka now has a vibrant PhD Programme with 47 PhD students on campus in 2019-20. A number of faculty members have received prestigious research grants for their projects and this has brought to Ashoka an energetic new group – research fellows. Once the University takes its policy decision on this, Ashoka will also have its own Postdoctoral Fellows. This community of young researchers bridging the two existing units of students and faculty and energising both will be an important addition for a vibrant intellectual landscape.

So what is it that we are looking ahead to as the next step? As academic departments grow and specialised strengths within each are identified there will not only be depth of research but a natural identification of synergies. This will lead to the emergence of interdisciplinary centres. The year ahead promises the beginnings of some exciting centres.

The present 25-acre campus is now looking at the completion of its final set of buildings – a new student hostel, faculty housing and a new multi-facility library building. Green spaces have become more precious than ever. But with carefully maintained fields and smiling flowerbeds the Ashoka campus remains an enlivening space, the hallmark of a great university. And there is excitement in the air as all of Ashoka looks forward to the second 25-acre plot – new plans, new aspirations, new possibilities. We look forward to your continued support in the journey that is Ashoka.

Malabika Sarkar

Yours sincerely,
MALABIKA SARKAR
Vice-Chancellor

THE
**UNDERGRADUATE
PROGRAMME**



01

Ashoka is India's first university offering an integrated, multidisciplinary liberal arts and sciences programme. The undergraduate (UG) course was introduced in August 2014. Ashoka's sciences programme – with physics and biology – was launched in 2017.

A distinctive feature of the University's UG programme is its Foundation Courses that precede the selection of majors and minors. These include courses such as *Literature and the World*, *Principles of Science*, *Social and Political Formations*, *Indian Civilisations*, and *Introduction to Mathematical Thinking*.

| HIGHLIGHTS |

Currently, the UG programme offers 11 pure majors and eight interdisciplinary majors such as History and International Relations, and Mathematics and Entrepreneurship. Starting in 2019-20, 12 pure majors, including chemistry, will be offered. The University offers minors in all pure majors and seven additional minors. Students can also choose from a range of co-curricular courses across visual arts, performing arts and languages.



Chancellor Rudrangshu Mukherjee in conversation with Ashoka students.

| FACULTY |

Ashoka's mission of providing quality and holistic education to its students has ensured that the University continues to broaden its faculty base to offer new fields of study. There were a total of 69 permanent faculty members in 2017-18, a number that has increased to over a hundred. Some of them have been new recruitments, while a few visiting professors have moved to the position of permanent faculty.

LS Shashidhara (PhD, University of Cambridge), formerly Distinguished Visiting Professor at Ashoka, was appointed as permanent faculty in July 2019. During his tenure he made significant contribution in establishing the Department of Biology, overseeing the laboratory and course structure. With Alok Bhattacharya (PhD, Jawaharlal Nehru University) joining, the Department of Biology now has six permanent faculty members.



Several departments, such as Mathematics, Political Science, English, Creative Writing, and Sociology & Anthropology had exceptional faculty joining from all over the world. Mahmood Kooria (PhD, Leiden University) joined the Department of History, raising the total number of permanent faculty members to seven. With the recruitment of Alexander Phillips (PhD, Cornell University) and Aparna Chaudhuri (PhD, Harvard University), the Department of English is now the second-largest department with a total permanent faculty strength of 14 members.

From the academic year 2019-20, Ashoka will also offer courses in Chemistry. Sourav Pal (PhD, Calcutta University) was appointed as the first Visiting Professor of the Department of Chemistry. He has received several awards and honours in recognition of his contribution to science, including the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Chemical Sciences.



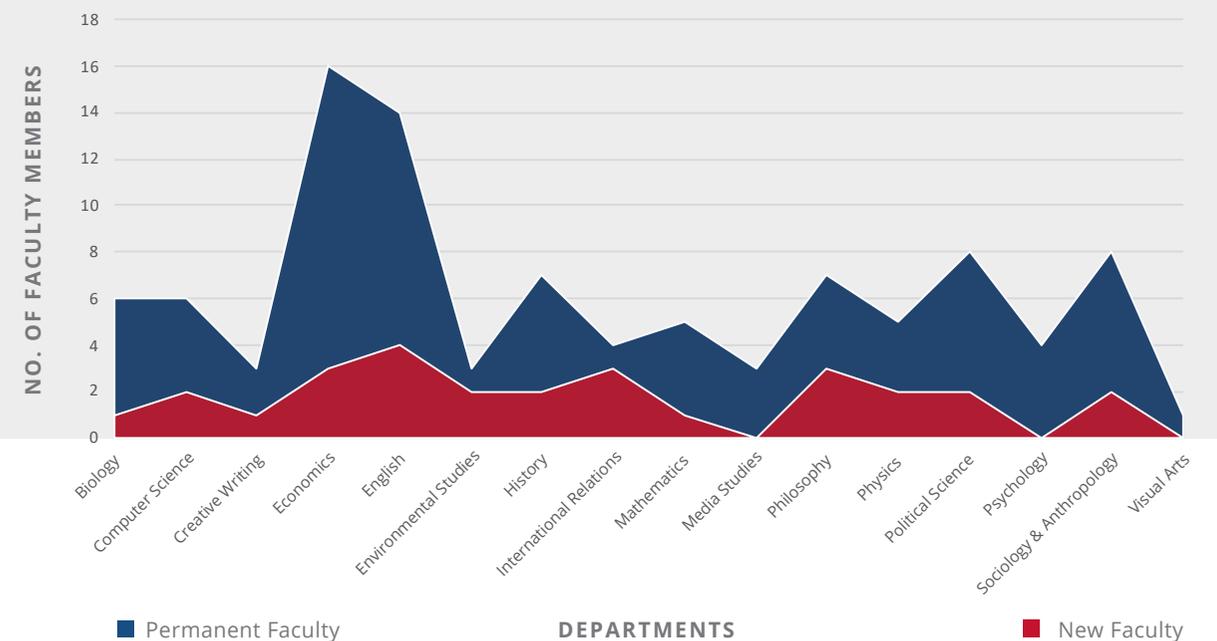
The Department of Physics welcomed three new permanent faculty members – Gautam Menon (PhD, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore), Somendra M Bhattacharjee (PhD, Carnegie Mellon University) and Pramoda Kumar Rai (PhD, Centre for Liquid Crystal Research). The Department of International Relations recruited several new faculty members. Ananya Sharma (PhD, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Pallavi Raghavan (PhD, University of Cambridge) joined as Assistant Professors. Srinath Raghavan (PhD, King's College London) is now permanent faculty as Professor of International Relations and History. Neelanjan Sircar (PhD, Columbia University) and Bann Seng Tan (PhD, Graduate Center at the City University New York) joined the Department of Political Science.

The Department of Economics continues to be the largest department at Ashoka with 16 permanent faculty members. Ashwini Deshpande (PhD, Delhi School of Economics), Ratul Lahkar (PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison) and Bharat Ramaswami (PhD, University of Minnesota) joined as professors. Four new assistant professors joined the department – Mihir Bhattacharya (PhD, Aix-Marseille School of Economics), Suraj Shekhar (PhD, Pennsylvania State University), Piyali Banerjee (PhD, University of Alabama) and Srijita Ghosh (PhD, New York University).

Above: Abir Bazaz, Assistant Professor of English, delivers a class on *Literature and the World* for UG students.

Left: Lionel Barber, Editor of the *Financial Times*, speaks at an Ashoka crossover lecture.

Faculty Hires (2018-19)





The curriculum at Ashoka is phenomenal. For one course, we wrote on the role of calculus in art. For another, we visited the Qutub Minar to locate mathematical patterns. This experiential learning is critical to help develop a better understanding of the subjects we study.



AAYUSH SONI, UG 2020
(RAVI MEHTA SCHOLAR)

GENDER DIVERSITY

CLASS OF	WOMEN (%)
2017	51
2018	55
2019	56
2020	54
2021	57

Gender diversity in UG cohorts across the years.
(Does not include ASP)

| ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH |

Ashoka's outreach efforts continued throughout the year to create a diverse and inclusive cohort of undergraduate students. The efforts entailed 289 engagements with schools across the country. This engagement was conducted by means of school presentations, international and national seminars, faculty workshops, and career fairs. A major development in outreach efforts during the academic year was the establishment of a regional presence for Ashoka University in major cities such as Chennai, Mumbai, Bengaluru, and Kolkata. Efforts to deepen engagement in tier 2 cities, such as Dehradun, Bhopal, Kochi, and Trivandrum also continued.

For the upcoming academic year 2019-20, the UG programme received 3,861 completed applications, from 1,095 schools across 217 cities. Six-hundred students will be admitted to the batch of 2022. These students will come from over 342 schools across 105 cities in India.

| ACADEMICS |

To graduate with a bachelor's degree from Ashoka, students must pass courses that are broadly divided into three categories – Foundation, Major (including interdisciplinary majors) and Co-curricular Courses.

The course structure is continuously evaluated and restructured to ensure both scholarly breadth and depth. While a strong focus remains on critical thinking, Foundation Courses have now been roughly aligned to three different areas – Mathematical and Natural Sciences, Humanities, and Social Sciences (these include transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary courses). Students must take at least one course from each area. Additionally, Foundation Courses in Environmental Studies and Indian Civilisations are mandatory. Student performance has been consistent since the University's inception. Women continue to be better represented in the top performance band.





Ali Imran, VP, External Engagement, hosting a session on placements for parents and students.

| PLACEMENTS |

The Career Development Office [more on page 40] organised over a 100 workshops to provide an overview of career opportunities and provide skill development training to students. The team reviewed over 700 resumes and conducted 120 mock interviews during the 2018-2019 academic year. Students also benefitted from access to quality one-on-one career counselling sessions.

Over 200 organisations conducted outreach and placement efforts on campus and the graduating batch of undergraduates and Ashoka scholars (fourth-year) have been offered employment by leading organisations across the country. All UG students who chose to opt for placements were successfully hired and the salaries offered are amongst the highest of any UG programme in India.

The companies include McKinsey & Company, AT Kearney, Dabur, Deloitte, Star TV, Zee, Genpact, TCS, Zomato, RBL Bank, India Infoline, MuSigma, and Central Square Foundation.

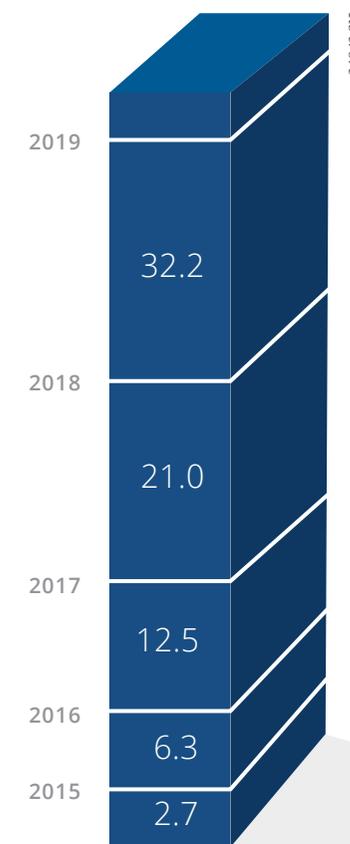
| GRADUATE STUDIES |

The Office of Global Education and Strategic Partnerships (GESP) held Graduate Information Sessions for final year students and Ashoka scholars in the monsoon semester. The office helped students with graduate school advising and with the application process to navigate the graduate admissions process of several schools including the University of Amsterdam, Australian National University and others. As a result over 57 Ashoka graduates are headed for master's and PhD programmes across the globe, a significant increase from the last academic year.

Thirty-five students from the graduating UG batch will pursue master's degrees at prestigious universities including the University of Oxford, Sciences Po, University of Edinburgh, and London School of Economics. Eighteen per cent of the second batch of Ashoka Scholars were admitted to graduate programmes. Three students were admitted to fully-funded PhD programmes at schools such as University of California at Berkeley, Columbia University and Penn State in the US. Nineteen students were admitted to master's programmes, including to universities such as the University of Oxford, London School of Economics, University of Amsterdam, and the University of Edinburgh.

| FINANCIAL AID |

Ashoka offers need-based financial aid and all incoming students are eligible to apply for full and partial scholarships. Nearly 50 per cent of all students enrolled in the undergraduate programme receive varying degrees of aid. Out of the 456 students admitted in 2018-19, 201 were scholarship recipients. This ranged from exceptional financial aid (including tuition, meals, residence cost, and stipend) to aid that covered tuition. An amount of Rs 32.25 crore was given by way of financial aid to



Financial aid disbursed across the years (UG programme)



Vanita Shastri, Dean, GESP, speaks to a representative at the Study Abroad Fair.

undergraduate students during the academic year.

| CONVOCATION |

On 17 May, Ashoka hosted the convocation for the third undergraduate class of 2019. The event celebrated the achievements of 303 students who completed the three-year bachelor's degree programme. One hundred and sixteen students from the Ashoka Scholars Programme (ASP) were awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research.

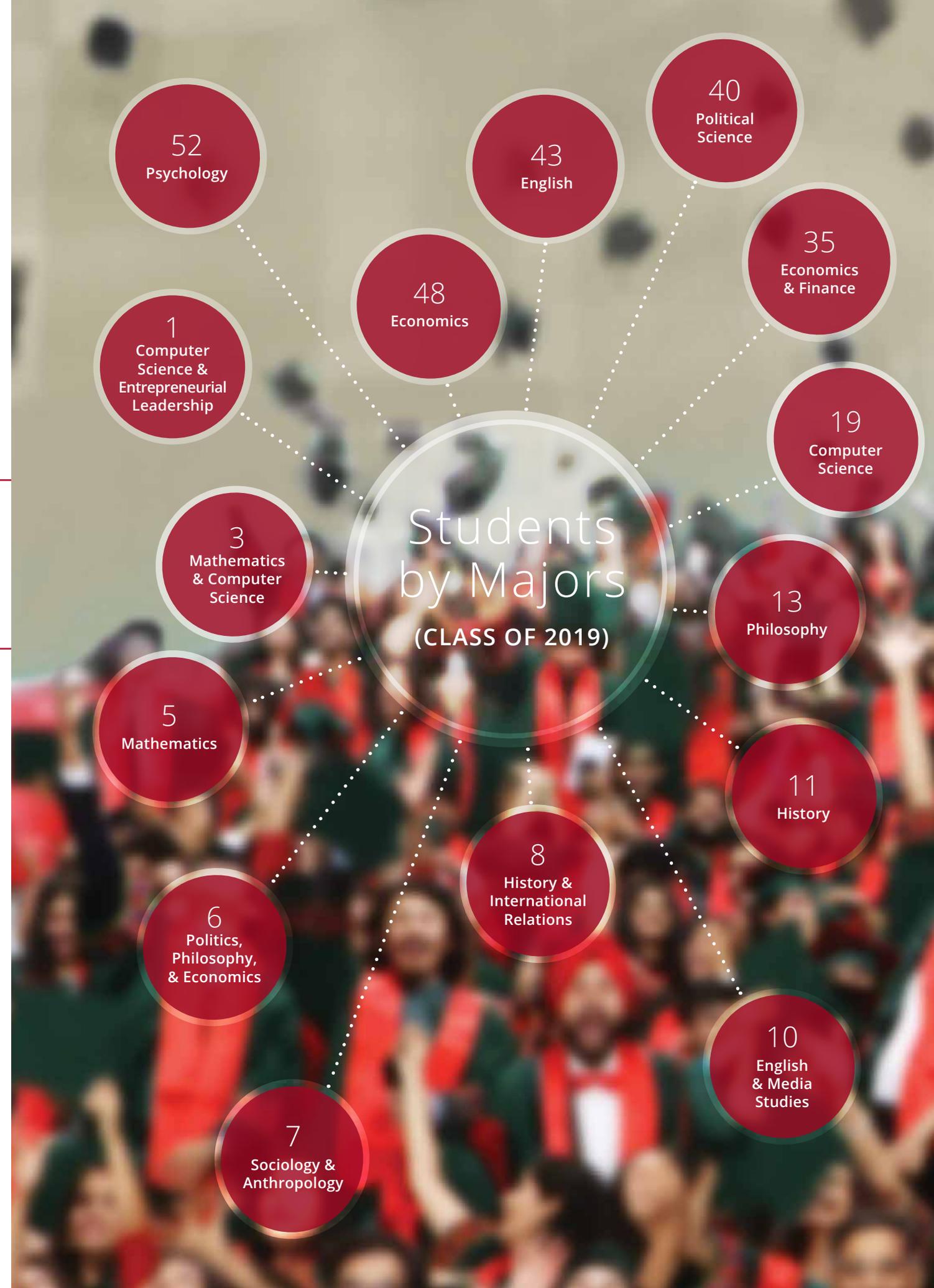
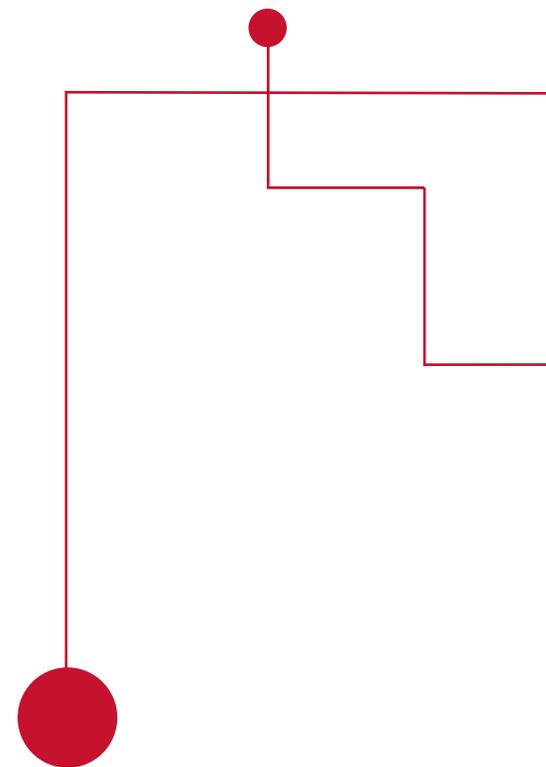
The keynote speakers for the event were Jonardon Ganeri (Professor of Philosophy, Arts and Humanities, NYU) and Gita Gopinath (Chief Economist, IMF, and Professor of International Studies and Economics, Harvard University).

Awards were granted to students who maintained a high CGPA (from a total of 4.0). Seven students graduated summa cum laude (CGPA 3.9 & above) and 36 students graduated magna cum laude (CGPA 3.75 & above). The third honour, cum laude (CGPA 3.6 & above), was bestowed upon 34 students.

| ROAD AHEAD |

In 2017-18, the University consolidated its foundation of an intensive academic framework supported by strong pedagogical practices. In 2018-19, it held to its goals of improving the systems and processes surrounding this core mission.

The focus for the academic year 2019-20 remains on solidifying the foundations of a strong sciences programme while preserving academic rigour in existing disciplines. Starting in 2019-20, students will also have the choice of studying chemistry, along with other science courses on offer. With an ever-expanding base of exceptional faculty and best practices, the UG programme will continue to expand the range of courses and aid that it offers.



ASHOKA SCHOLARS PROGRAMME (ASP)

After completing the three-year undergraduate programme, students can choose to pursue further research and study for a fourth year at Ashoka. Known as the Ashoka Scholars Programme, the additional year earns scholars a postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Studies and Research (DipASR).

All students who have completed at least 92 credits of their degree programme are eligible for admission. Once enrolled, scholars have a pool of several tracks to choose from. They can use the year to complete a minor, turn a minor into a second major, develop a specialisation, or prepare for a master's degree.

In 2018-19, the capstone/thesis element was strengthened considerably, with nearly all students completing some form of thesis writing. Students are closely supervised by academic advisors who support them in constructing arguments and in selecting the right programme for their graduate studies. For 2019-20, 184 students have expressed an interest in joining the ASP programme. Many of them have already decided on their capstone project and begun work with their faculty advisors.

From the 2nd batch of ASP, three scholars are attending fully-funded PhD programmes in University of California at Berkeley, Columbia University and Pennsylvania State University. Nineteen students joined master's programmes at esteemed universities abroad. The universities they will be attending include schools such as University of Oxford, London School of Economics, University of Edinburgh, and University of Amsterdam.



Ashoka has stimulated me to study global issues, and work on solving them. From professors who are pioneers in their fields, I have learnt to think globally. The diversity year has inspired me to seek other cultures and question the status-quo.



RHYTHM BANERJEE, ASP 2019

THE
**YOUNG INDIA
FELLOWSHIP**





Arun Singh, Former Indian Ambassador to the US, delivers a lecture on *Deconstructing Select Foreign Policy Challenges and Responses*.

The Young India Fellowship (YIF), Ashoka University's flagship programme, is a one-year multidisciplinary postgraduate diploma programme in Liberal Studies. It brings together young individuals who show exceptional intellectual ability and leadership potential from across the country, and prepares them to become socially committed agents of change. YIF exposes Fellows to a diverse set of subjects and perspectives, delivered by some of the finest professors from India and around the world. Students come from diverse academic backgrounds such as engineering, the humanities and social sciences, law, medicine, commerce, and science. The programme commenced in 2011 with 57 Fellows and the eighth cohort admitted 289 Fellows in July 2018. In July 2019, the programme admitted its ninth cohort comprising 301 students.

| HIGHLIGHTS |

The academic year 2018-19 witnessed significant progress in terms of diversity – of students and courses at the YIF. The incoming batch of 289 Fellows came from 23 states and 92 cities in India. The Experiential Learning Module also saw the addition of some challenging and exciting projects [more on page 30]. A host of workshops and guest sessions by renowned practitioners and speakers from India and around the world further added to the intellectual depth of the programme.

| FACULTY |

YIF continued to follow the strategy of inviting both resident faculty members and distinguished visiting faculty from across the world. This includes academics from Ashoka's global partner institutions. During the 2018-19 session, 13 resident faculty members and



28 visiting faculty members taught at the Fellowship. There were a total of seven foreign faculty members in this group of visiting faculty. In addition to the above mentioned faculty, ten writing preceptors helped run the YIF's Critical Writing Programme.

| ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH |

In 2018-19, the YIF Outreach team worked towards making Ashoka a more diverse and inclusive community. Efforts included conducting seminars, mailing marketing materials, hosting webinars, and participating in career fairs nationally and internationally. Historically, word of mouth continues to be the strongest outreach and marketing tool. The team incentivised current Fellows and alumni to reach out to their networks and recommend applicants to the Fellowship. In the 2018-19 batch, the Fellowship admitted a class of 289 Fellows, of which 162 were women.

At the end of the 2018-19 admission session, YIF received 2,572 completed applications and accepted 301 Fellows as a part of the incoming batch. They come from 122 cities across 26 states. Sixty-one per cent of the cohort comprises of women.

| FINANCIAL AID |

All Young India Fellows receive a minimum threshold of scholarship. Ashoka operates on a principle of admission wherein students are offered financial aid depending on the economic need and profile of their family.

| ACADEMICS |

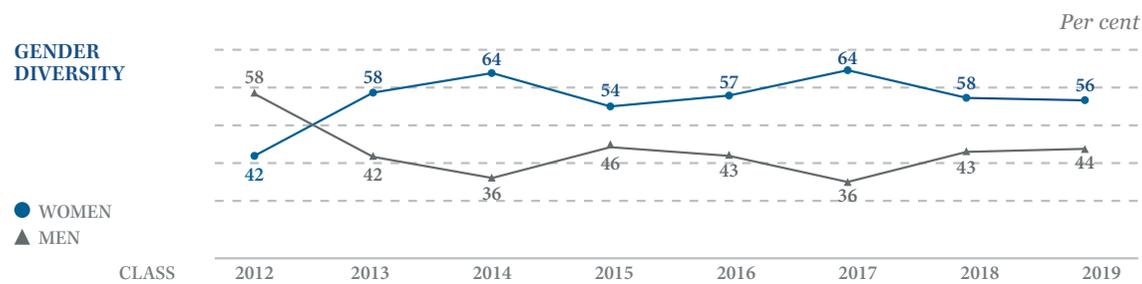
The YIF offered seven core courses taken by all Fellows, as well as 34 elective courses with approximately 100 students to a section. As during

YEAR	SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED
2011-12	4.5
2012-13	4.8
2013-14*	3.3
2014-15	4.9
2015-16	5.5
2016-17	6.4
2017-18	8.2
2018-19	9.6

Financial aid disbursed across the years (YIF)
*In 2013, the structure of the YIF scholarships was revised

the last academic year, the focus was on the breadth of disciplines offered. Some of the new courses on offer this year include *Translating India, India's Economy – Past, Present and Near Future, Issues in Social Democracy and Social Justice in India, Science and Religion, Energy Policy, and Essentials of Business.*

On completing their year at the YIF, Fellows not only need to have a sound academic foundation but also be effective communicators. The Critical Writing Programme trains Fellows to possess three core skills – critical thinking, reading, and writing. Ten preceptors taught the entire batch in small groups over an eight-month period. Several workshops were also conducted under the programme. A few focus areas of these workshops were – English as a Second Language (ESL), translation, visual thinking, journalistic writing, and narratives of well-being.



Gender diversity in YIF cohorts across the years.



“
Be it the support from the Centre of Entrepreneurship or the constant reflection that the Mother Teresa Fellowship encouraged. Ashoka added the fuel to my fire. I hope to use my education to impact change in the lives of children and empower them with similar opportunities.
”



SAUMYA AGGARWAL, YIF 2017
Co-founder & Director, Barefoot Edu Foundation
(GREAT EASTERN SCHOLAR)

| MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME |

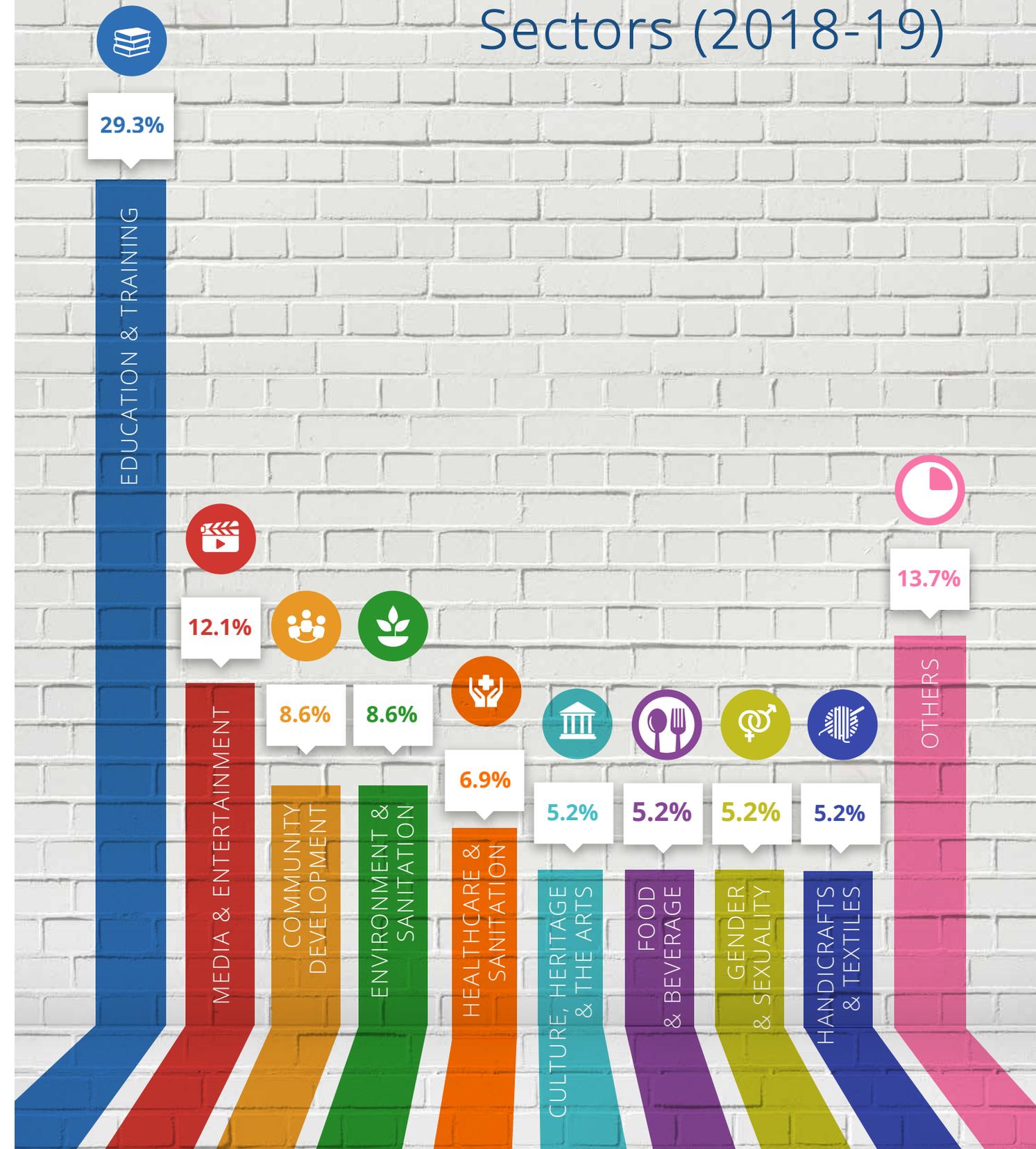
Through the Programme, the YIF offers a space for Fellows to connect with mentors and seek guidance on various aspects of work and life. Industry leaders with strong personal, academic, and professional track records are invited to be mentors and are matched with Fellows whose journey they can positively impact. In 2018-19, the programme facilitated 231 unique mentoring relationships between 127 mentors and 225 Fellows.

| PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT |

YIF requires Fellows to undertake an eight-month-long internship known as the Experiential Learning Module (ELM). This is a core aspect of the YIF curriculum. The ELM projects serve as effective platforms for Fellows to learn problem-solving, teamwork, client engagement, communication skills, project management, planning, and execution. An analysis of their performance as reflected in their composite grades in three stages has shown a steady overall growth. In the 2018-19 cohort, Fellows were organised in teams of five members each and were engaged with 58 projects across diverse sectors. [refer to chart on page 31]

From the Fellows placed at the end of the academic year, sixty-six per cent were placed in the corporate sector and 34 per cent took positions in the social sector. Companies that recruited from the Fellowship include McKinsey & Company, Bain & Company, Boston Consulting Group, AT Kearney, Deloitte, Egon Zehnder, Sattva Consulting, PRADAN, Teach for India, MakeMyTrip, Genpact, The Print, and Dr Reddy's Laboratory.

Division of ELM Projects Across Sectors (2018-19)





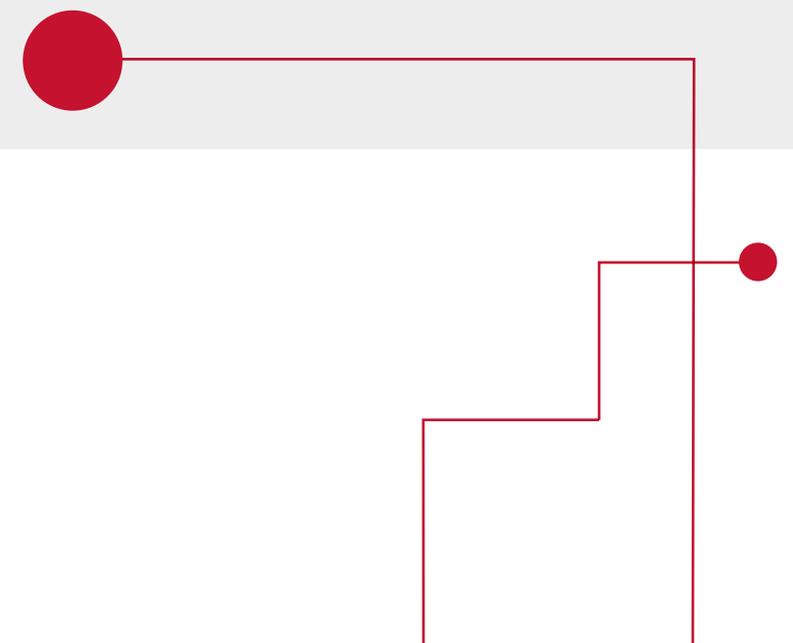
Graduating Fellows at the Convocation 2019.

| CONVOCATION 2019 |

The University hosted the convocation ceremony for the YIF Class of 2019 on 22 June. Fellows received their certificates from the Chief Guest, Dr Arvind Subramanian, leading economist and the former Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India. Founders, faculty, friends, and families of the graduating students were present along with other members of the Ashoka family. Bhaswar Faisal Khan and Ayush Khosla were awarded the Torchbearer Awards for embodying the spirit and ideals of the programme and displaying academic and co-curricular excellence. Simrat Singh received the YIF Scholar Award for leading the batch in academic excellence. The Spirit of YIF Awards were awarded to two Fellows from the cohort: Irina Cheema and Tirath Singh Puni.

| THE ROAD AHEAD |

The University will hold the Fellowship size to a cohort of 300 for the foreseeable future. Currently, the key objective is to enhance the quality of the Fellowship experience. This will be done by streamlining the curriculum and administrative structure. Additionally, significant investment has been made towards enhancing experiential and peer learning at the Fellowship.



FOUR

YEARS AND ONE STARTUP LATER – WHY YIF MATTERS

ANIRUDDHA VERMA
AND DHRUV SHARMA



Four years ago, at the YIF convocation ceremony, we were asked by several people ‘If and how the YIF had changed us?’ Neither of us, at that time, knew how to respond.

Graduating Fellows invariably get asked such questions. While some have remarkable stories of personal transformation to share; for most Fellows, the YIF brings about small, imperceptible changes that take effect over a long period. The French writer Antoine Saint-Exupéry made this point more emphatically – “It is idle, having planted an acorn in the morning, to expect that afternoon to sit in the shade of the oak.”

The reason we found it hard to answer that question was because we were yet to apply lessons from YIF to situations we had not dealt with before. Now, four years and one startup later, we are making another attempt. Here are three things we learnt at YIF, chosen from many others, that we continuously find ourselves coming back to.

Firstly, to quote zen master Shunryo Suzuki, “In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert’s there are few.” The YIF course structure is expansive and offers

five to six weeks of engagement per course. Attaining mastery of a discipline within that time frame is clearly out of the question. However, the process of absorbing key ideas and underlying concepts, course after course, term after term, results in the cultivation of a beginner’s mindset. This entails you being comfortable in starting small and knowing when to ask for help. When we decided to start a company, we knew this would be one of the most important lessons to remember.

Secondly, we learned not all those who wander are lost. In a recent letter to shareholders, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos wrote lucidly about the power of wandering. Before YIF, like many of our peers, our academic and professional lives had followed a conventional trajectory – A degree in engineering and starter jobs in large corporations. Spending time with others in the Ashoka ecosystem (peers, alumni, faculty and Founders) made us comfortable with the idea of navigating a non-linear path (more simply, wandering). On starting our own company, we were in no rush to take a product or service to market. We first wanted to understand our target customer segment, which was small businesses in India.

Customer-centric wandering felt counter-intuitive at first but ultimately led us to innumerable latent opportunities.

Our third lesson came from Kenwyn’s Smith’s class on *The Heart of Leadership*, when he taught us to “learn to read the room and work the people”. To act on opportunities presented to us and bring our business model into existence, we had to be persuasive to a large variety of people. This group spanned from chief executives of large organisations and financiers with USD 200 million balance-sheets to entrepreneurs running small businesses with wafer-thin margins. Prof. Smith’s advice from the course carried us through on many occasions. It allowed us to know the importance of reading a room, building conversations, working around objections and ultimately drive decisions in our favour.

These are only three of the many lessons already learned, and many are yet to be discovered. Now, with the benefit of hindsight, it appears that the YIF graduation scroll was never meant to be a stamp of approval, but rather, an enduring license to learn and evolve. Here’s to the next four years!

Aniruddha Verma and **Dhruv Sharma** are co-founders of CashPositive – a Delhi-based FinTech startup that helps resellers like distributors and retailers access purchase finance. They graduated from the Young India Fellowship in 2015. Prior to YIF, Aniruddha worked at SAP Labs and Dhruv worked with Accenture India’s financial services practice.

STUDENT SERVICES –
**OFFICES
AND CENTRES**



| OFFICE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (GESP) |

The GESP was established to lead all international partnerships for Ashoka. The office works with other academic institutes to negotiate, develop and manage global collaborations. This academic year the number of the University's partnerships increased to 20.

The GESP advised over 105 students and facilitated over 90 study-abroad programmes for Ashoka students over the summer. They travelled to Lehigh University, Koç University, King's College London, and the University of Cambridge. Seventeen students studied abroad in the monsoon and spring semesters. Furthermore, Ashoka hosted eight UG students from Sciences Po, McMaster University, George Washington University, Bard College, and University of Sheffield. The GESP also offered 18 courses taught by Ashoka faculty on campus during the summer semester. The training programmes provided by the office expanded this year to include three engagement groups outside of Ashoka – corporates, teachers and doctors.

| OFFICE OF LEARNING SUPPORT (OLS) |

The OLS works to create an inclusive environment for students with learning difficulties and sensory impairments. This is done through individual support plans to help students with specific needs to achieve their academic goals. They also serve as a central resource on specific-needs-related information and services.

This academic year witnessed an increase in the footfall of students seeking help for emotional and executive functioning concerns. There was also increased interaction with prospective students and parents – several of whom visited the campus to understand accessibility support. Dyslexia Week, Autism Awareness Week and International Day for People with Disabilities were celebrated as campaigns for inclusion and acceptance within the Ashoka community. The OLS has additionally taken up mentoring of English Language Learners, facilitating their academic transition into the University's curricular requirements.

| OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS (OSA) |

The OSA works towards nurturing a well-rounded, enriching campus experience for students. The office comprises of Student Life, Residence Life, Sports, and an Alumni Cell. The office cultivates and promotes student learning and development, with a strong commitment towards Ashoka's ideals of diversity, inclusion and mutual respect. This includes physical and mental well-being, cultural enrichment, and creation of empowerment opportunities. It oversees all extra-curricular programmes, student well-being, student governance, as well as campus events. It also organises and conducts mentorship programmes and leadership training to aid in the overall growth of the student body.

| OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (OAA) |

The OAA administers the full spectrum of the University's undergraduate academic experience. Their work ranges from course scheduling and registration to course assessments and faculty feedback. The office works closely with faculty in developing academic programmes. It also liaises with the OSL in ensuring cohesiveness between academics and extra-curricular programmes at Ashoka. At the end of the year, the office releases the 'Dean's List', honouring students with the best academic records.

A representative from the University of Sheffield speaks to a student at the Study Abroad Fair.



| CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (CDO) |

The CDO helps students evaluate their career goals, prepare for and explore new possibilities, and navigate the tangled web of job-searching. The office offers one-on-one career counselling, internship guidance, and organises multiple career-related events throughout the year. The CDO also ensures that all placements are tailored to the skills and interests of the students. It also opens avenues for employers to interact with students to foster those relationships and facilitate recruitment. In 2018-19, 334 students opted for placements across batches and received a total of 352 offers from over 200 companies that participated in the recruitment process.

| CENTRE FOR WRITING AND COMMUNICATION (CWC) |

The CWC works closely with the academic community at Ashoka to develop critical thinking, writing and communication skills. It provides pedagogical support across disciplines through in-class lectures, workshops and one-on-one sessions. The office also develops learning material and teaching practices specific to students needing additional learning support. It has developed a year-long English language support programme which is critical to Ashoka's inclusion and diversity objectives.

Over the last two years, the office has emerged as a platform for discussing pedagogical practices both within Ashoka and the broader academic community in India. The CWC organised a national conference on *Inclusive Pedagogy: Teaching and Learning Practices in Higher Education in India*. It also initiated a series called Writing Geographies, on regional and linguistic cultures of India and their communication practices. In 2018-19, the CWC also launched its Summer School for Research Writing which hosts 25 research scholars from different disciplines and universities across India.

| CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CFE) |

The CFE serves as an academic centre while incubating and accelerating startups. It nurtures the entrepreneurial endeavours of students, Fellows, and faculty alike. The centre is committed to assisting students at every stage of the life cycle of an enterprise. It does this for both mainstream innovations as well as ventures around social innovation and sustainability.



The flagship programmes of the CfE include the Entrepreneur in Residence programme and the AIM Smart City Accelerator. Other than these, the centre offers a minor in entrepreneurship for undergraduate students. It also conducts events and institutes awards such as Startup Ashoka, Startup Bootcamp, Ashoka Pillar Award, and a Speaker Series. Over the academic year, CfE offered a combination of seven academic courses ranging from *Entrepreneurial Marketing and Finance* to *Design Thinking*. It also provided a Summer Entrepreneurship Immersion Programme in Singapore.

| ASHOKA CENTRE FOR WELL-BEING (ACWB) |

The ACWB offers counselling and psychological support. It is the first centre of its kind in India as it focuses on capacity building at every level of an organisation (students, staff and faculty). Operating with a mindset of well-being, instead of diagnosis, the focus of work is on the preventive, clinical and promotional aspects of mental well-being. In addition to offering support for individuals facing mental health issues, the centre prioritises preventing the onset of mental health problems by promoting behaviour change through information, activities, and workshops informed by positive psychology.

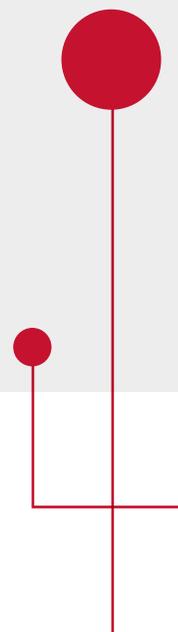
In 2018-19, the ACWB served over 500 members of the Ashoka community through 2000+ sessions. On the theme of destigmatising conversations on mental health, ACWB organised sessions on psychoeducation for the parents of the incoming and current batches of the YIF and the UG programmes. On the theme of de-mystifying mental health, ACWB worked with the student community to train over 100 Residential Advisors and cohort leaders to become first responders in cases of mental health concerns on campus. Over and above other events, workshops and conversations, the centre has been instrumental in drafting policies for mental health care, crisis intervention protocol and securing financial help for psychiatric consultations for scholarship students at the University.



Studying at university should be an exciting time, yet for those who face learning challenges, it can be an unnerving experience. The OLS provides a safe environment, so all students irrespective of their unique needs can participate fully in Ashoka's rich academic and cultural life.



REENA GUPTA
(Director, OLS)



CENTRES AT ASHOKA



Sonam Wangchuk, education reformist, engineer, and the winner of the Ramon Magsaysay Award 2018, speaks to Ashoka students during the inaugural edition of the Ashoka Pillar Award



Extreme left: Founder Pramath Raj Sinha presents the opening address at a crossover lecture organised by the CSBC.

Left: Vice-Chancellor Malabika Sarkar in conversation with Cass R. Sunstein.

Ashoka has established seven Centres of Excellence that foster thought leadership, generate knowledge, and create new avenues of research in areas of social relevance. These centres aim to encourage academic and research collaborations to establish an exciting interdisciplinary environment on campus. Three, out of these seven centres, work primarily with students and have been mentioned in the last section [page 36].

| CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (CSBC) |

The CSBC was established in 2017 through a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The centre endeavours to be a world-class institution for behaviour change by designing and enabling

evidence-led communication interventions for low-income and marginalised Indian communities. It works across nutrition, sanitation, maternal health, family planning, and financial services. Over 2018-19, a key project was piloting a behaviour change programme to increase adherence to iron and folic acid supplementation for iron-deficiency anaemia. The CSBC worked closely with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to co-create mass media campaigns, including television and radio spots which were disseminated by the Ministry.

CSBC also funds and manages the evaluation of two edutainment dramas – Navrangi Re!, produced by BBC Media Action and Season 3 of Main Kuch Bhi Kar Sakti Hoon conceptualised by the Population Foundation of India. The centre conducted a

workshop with Dalberg aimed at decoding consumer behaviour to drive financial health. It is also conducting a workshop with the Yale Center for Customer Insight on the application of behaviour science to the family planning programme.

| CENTRE FOR SOCIAL IMPACT AND PHILANTHROPY (CSIP) |

Established in 2016 CSIP is India's first academic centre focused on enabling strategic and robust philanthropy for social impact. It strives to provide funders and civil society organisations evidence-based insights and knowledge products to grow their scale and impact. It convenes platforms for norm-setting and collaborative learning and offers programmes that strengthen civil society capability and sustainability.

Ashoka helped me understand the value of certain organic things in nature, and broadened my horizons. It also taught me the value of networking. It was through my time there that I gained the clarity and resources to continue my education.

JAYJIT DAS, YIF 2018

Research conducted in 2018-19 sought to fill critical gaps in the understanding of Indian philanthropy through rigorous, data-based estimates of funding flows. A timely study helped provide clarity on the impact of changes in international funding on civil society, while another sought to analyse the effectiveness of Giving Tuesday India. CSIP also partnered with NITI Aayog in a comprehensive review of the interfaces between government and civil society to recommend concrete policy reform agenda.

On-campus, multiple student engagement activities are geared towards raising awareness about the social impact sector. This includes a year-long volunteer programme called Jagriti with the NGO Breakthrough. CSIP also nurtures new leadership through an 18-month social sector fellowship programme called the Mother Teresa Fellowship. Ten new Fellows joined the cohort of 14 Fellows selected in 2018. Another programme, Strategic Non-Profit Management in India (SNMI) is organised in partnership with Harvard Business School and offered to senior non-profit leaders on institution building.

| CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY (CSGS) |

The CSGS was established at Ashoka in 2015. It is the first centre of its kind in India to study the broader spectrum of questions relating to both gender and sexuality. The flagship activities of the centre include a speaker series called ISHQ (Issues in Society, History, and Queerness), a performance series called ADA (Art-Desire-Activism), a reading group, and a summer internship programme. The CSGS also conducts Prevention of Sexual Harassment workshops for other institutions such as the University of Delhi.

In December 2018, the CSGS collaborated with Delhi-based Partners for Law in Development (PLD) to organise a round table of psychoanalysts, students, activists, and lawyers on sexuality and harassment. The centre also held a film festival showcasing films

Bottom right: Artist and activist Salima Hashmi at a lecture organised by the CSGS.



on themes such as masculinity, queerness and women's history. As part of its summer internship programme, CSGS has placed students across various departments at Ashoka as well as with external organisations such as Nazariya and The Chinky Homo Project.

| TRIVEDI CENTRE FOR POLITICAL DATA (TCPD) |

The TCPD was established in 2016 to conduct empirical research and promote data-driven research, policy work and journalism. It does so by producing and disseminating open access political data by conducting original research and developing research partnerships. The TCPD covered the General Election in 2019, collecting data on thousands of candidates across the country. This led to the publication of more than 40 newspaper articles (including *The Indian Express*, *Hindustan Times* and *Scroll.in*). Over 50 publications from different media houses also used this data (including *The New York Times* and BBC). The centre directors co-taught a six-credit course on data-driven election analysis, which followed the election in real-time.

TCPD regularly organises conferences, discussions and has hosted several prominent speakers on the Ashoka campus including Ashok Lavasa, Election Commissioner of India. It also conducted a Summer School – a free one-week intensive program aimed at sharing methodologies. Of the three conferences organised this year, two took place in India and the third in Sciences Po, Paris.

This academic year, TCPD commenced a partnership with the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) to work on building a dataset on political violence using newspaper archives. Two scholars from the Keough School, University of Notre Dame, have earned a competitive grant from their university to work with TCPD on a survey of political ambitions of women and men panchayat leaders in Haryana.

A portrait of Kathryn Collins Hardy, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a light blue patterned top with dark blue leaf-like motifs. She is standing outdoors with green foliage in the background.

TOWARDS AN ENGLISH-MEDIUM MULTILINGUALISM: ASHOKA'S LINGUISTIC CROSSROADS

KATHRYN COLLINS HARDY

In 1835, Lord Thomas Macaulay delivered his famous Minute on Indian Education, arguing for (British-funded) Indian education to be in English. He forcefully claimed that English was superior to “native” languages, writing famously that a “single shelf of a good European library [is] worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia.” More than a century later, in *Thoughts on Linguistic States* (1955), Dr BR Ambedkar made an uncomfortably similar claim: “The official language of the State shall be Hindi and until India becomes fit for this purpose English. ... One language can unite people. Two languages are sure to divide people.”

Ambedkar was convinced that the powerful movements in favour of linguistic states in the South were dangerous to India's precarious national solidarity. Hindi, he felt, eventually had to be swallowed as a pill to prevent the dissolution of the young Indian nation. Until then, English, neutral as to North and South, would quiet the fractious proponents of Tamil and Telugu who rejected Hindi. These two rather different men both argued for the power of English to unite India's populace and its political future.

Given all this, what does it mean to teach and study in English in a growing university in north India?

English is so much more than its grammar and stock of common words: it's made up of our patterns of everyday speech, our practices of writing and reading, and, inevitably, our beliefs about language itself, which anthropologists call “language ideologies.” My own research on Bhojpuri demonstrates the persistence of colonial language ideologies: while Bhojpuri is derided as “regional” and therefore vulgar, English is transnational and therefore desirable and modern.

Ashoka is, at first glance, an English-medium university in a Hindi-speaking part of the country. But our linguistic world is complicated: some students struggle in English, but easily slip into Hindi to chat between lectures. Non-Hindi speakers sometimes feel awkward when their Hindi-speaking friends tease them. Others bemoan the fact that they never learned their “mother tongue,” whether Bodo, Sindhi, Telugu. Our international students bring another level of linguistic diversity to campus.

Placing English at the pinnacle of the global language hierarchy depends on colonial logics in which “vernacular” languages are devalued or ignored. But at the same time, English allows students with diverse backgrounds to communicate freely. English is thus the medium of both inclusive pedagogy and exclusion.

At Ashoka, I teach a course called *Language and Power in South Asia*, where we wrestle with these problems. Students enter with a strong sense of the complicated histories of language in India – after all, they encounter the reality of language ideologies every day. Many students feel a sense of relief to learn that painful relationships to language are not theirs alone – they are shared struggles that are structured by history and colonialism.

And they have not been content to learn passively about language ideologies. Students took action: they formed a club devoted to the many languages spoken on campus, celebrating linguistic diversity on campus while challenging their fellow students to reconsider their own assumptions about language. Why should English crowd out the beauty and utility of Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Tibetan? To my mind, an English-medium university like Ashoka can only stay true to its liberal arts mission by facing, head on, the challenges of the very real multilingualism in which we all co-exist. Courses such as *Language and Power*, taught in Monsoon 2017 and again in 2018, look towards that aim.

Kathryn Collins Hardy is assistant professor of anthropology & sociology. Her research investigates emergent categories in diverse sites of social life: filmmaking, the mass celebration of Chhath Puja in Mumbai, and lives of water buffalo in Varanasi. Kathryn was previously a Singh Fellow at Yale University, and a Mellon Fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. She holds a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.



1. A student works on a project in Ashoka's biology lab. The sciences programme started in 2017 with biology and physics. Chemistry will also be offered as a subject starting in the academic year 2019-20.
2. Ashish Dhawan in conversation with Jacqueline Novogratz, Founder and CEO, Acumen, at an event held in February 2019.
3. A student during an event held at Dr Reddy's Auditorium.
4. Chairperson and Managing Director of Biocon Limited, Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, speaks to Ashoka students. She was in conversation with eminent mathematician Manjul Bhargava.
5. Lehigh President John Simon with former Vice-Chancellor Pratap Bhanu Mehta. One of Ashoka's 20 international partnerships is with Lehigh University.
6. Students gather at the hostel lobby at the end of a long day of classes.
7. Attendees at a programme organised by students to show gratitude to members of the support staff at Ashoka.
8. A session at the inaugural edition of IDEA - Innovation, Design and Entrepreneurship at Ashoka. The event, a one-of-a-kind entrepreneurship colloquium, was organised by the Entrepreneurship Network of Ashoka.
9. Founders and leadership at the UG Convocation 2019 with the keynote speakers Gita Gopinath (Chief Economist, IMF, and Professor of International Studies and Economics, University of Harvard) and Jonardon Ganeri (Professor of Philosophy, Arts and Humanities, NYU).
10. The Ashoka women's football team during an on-campus friendly match.
11. Ajit Nedungagi, Founder and Member of the Board of Trustees, with Ashoka students.
12. Ashoka's campus has several spaces, both indoor and outdoors for students to convene and work on individual and group projects. Pictured here, a student catching up on coursework in-between classes.
13. Chancellor Rudrangshu Mukherjee congratulating students after a sporting victory.
14. Two eminent historians in conversation. Author and historian Ramachandra Guha speaks with Nayanjot Lahiri, professor of history, at an Ashoka event.
15. Kenwyn Smith takes a class on *The Heart of Leadership* for the Young India Fellowship.





Students clarifying doubts at the Graduate Admission Seminar.

YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAMME (YSP)

The YSP is a unique summer residential programme that introduces outstanding high school students to the idea of a liberal arts education. The week-long course exposes students to multiple disciplines through interactive learning. The programme covers a range of activities such as lectures, workshops, discussion groups, project work, presentations, and performances. Over 12 Ashoka faculty, including Chancellor Rudrangshu Mukherjee conducted classes for the young scholars.

The fourth edition of the YSP was held successfully this year with a growth of 63 per cent to enrol 277 students. They came from 170 schools, 71 cities and 23 states. The batch comprised 180 women and two international scholars.

MASTER'S AND PHD PROGRAMMES

| MASTER'S IN LIBERAL STUDIES (MLS) |
Launched in 2015, the MLS is open to students who have graduated from the YIF and are accepted by a faculty mentor to work on a definite research project as a graduate assistant. Since its inception, MLS students have worked on a vast array of disciplines, including human-computer interaction, cognitive psychology, literary theory, and macroeconomics. Five former MLS students are currently pursuing their PhDs in psychology (University of Austin, Washington University, Saint-Louis and University of Maryland), political science (UC Santa Barbara), and social anthropology (University of Edinburgh).

Graduates from the batch of 2018-19 have been admitted to a fully-funded PhD in English at Lehigh University, a master's programme in history at the University of Oxford, and a master's programme in philosophy at Simon Fraser University. Seventeen students have been admitted to study in the 2019-20 cohort across a variety of programmes. The incoming cohort will pursue research in disciplines ranging from English, history, and philosophy to psychology and computer science.

| MA (ECONOMICS) |
The master's degree in economics provides students with an opportunity to obtain training in modern economics by highly qualified academics in the field. The academic approach brings together cutting-edge economic theory and rigorous data analysis. Under an agreement with MIT J-PAL, a select group of students from the programme are trained in Randomised Control Trial (RCT) methodology. The internship lasts for approximately seven months, starting from the end of the second semester to the end of the third semester. The first batch of students graduated in May 2019.



Out of the 23 who graduated, one earned the distinction magna cum laude; seven others earned the distinction cum laude. Students were placed in renowned companies such as Fractal Analytics, Gartner, and EXL Analytics. Several others are working with policy research organisations like Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning and National Institute of Public Finance and Policy. The second batch of 21 students will graduate in May 2020.

| PHD PROGRAMME |

In pursuit of its goals of being a leading research university, Ashoka initiated a well-structured PhD programme during the academic year 2017-18.

During the academic year 2018-19, Ashoka admitted 38 PhD students in five departments – biology, computer science, economics, English, and history. The departments of psychology and physics initiated graduate programmes during the year, and the admissions process is underway. Selected students receive a monthly stipend and an annual contingency grant from the University.



FACULTY RESEARCH

With a particular focus on interdisciplinary research, Ashoka supports faculty members, visiting scholars and students to pursue rigorous and collaborative research. This enables faculty to publish papers, author books, attend conferences, and represent Ashoka at various forums. Many professors are also recipients of prestigious grants, fellowships and awards [more on page 63].

During the academic year, Ashoka faculty has authored over nine books and published over a hundred research articles. Books published by members of the Department of History include Nayanjot Lahiri's *Time Pieces: A Whistle-Stop Tour of Ancient India* (2018) and Mahesh Rangarajan's *At Nature's Edge: The Global Present and Long-Term History* (2018). Saikat Majumdar (English and creative writing) published his fiction novel *The Scent of God* (2019). Janice Pariat's (creative writing) book *The Nine-Chambered Heart* (2018) received international acclaim.

Srinath Raghavan (international relations) authored two books on issues of security and military: *The Security Dilemma and India–China Relations* (2018) and *Military Technological Innovation in India: A Tale of Three Projects* (2018). Pallavi Raghavan, from the same department, published a book on India-Pakistan titled *A Resolvable Enmity: India's and Pakistan's Early Years* (2019). Malvika Maheshwari (political science) authored *Art Attacks: Violence and Offence Taking in India* (2019). Several faculty members, such as Kathryn Hardy (sociology & anthropology) and Nayan Chanda (international relations), have published various book chapters.

Faculty members at Ashoka have been publishing outstanding research articles and essays. During the academic year 2018-19, Danny Weltman (philosophy) published the article *Helping Buchanan on Helping the Rebels* in the *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy*. Upinder Singh (history) published two exceptional articles in *Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of Asian History* and *Bulletin of the Department of Museums, Chennai*.

For me, learning has been both about research and teaching. Among the people I have learnt a lot from, besides fellow researchers and senior scholars, are students. Learning through a combination of research and discovery through teaching and mentoring has been most fascinating.

MAHESH RANGARAJAN

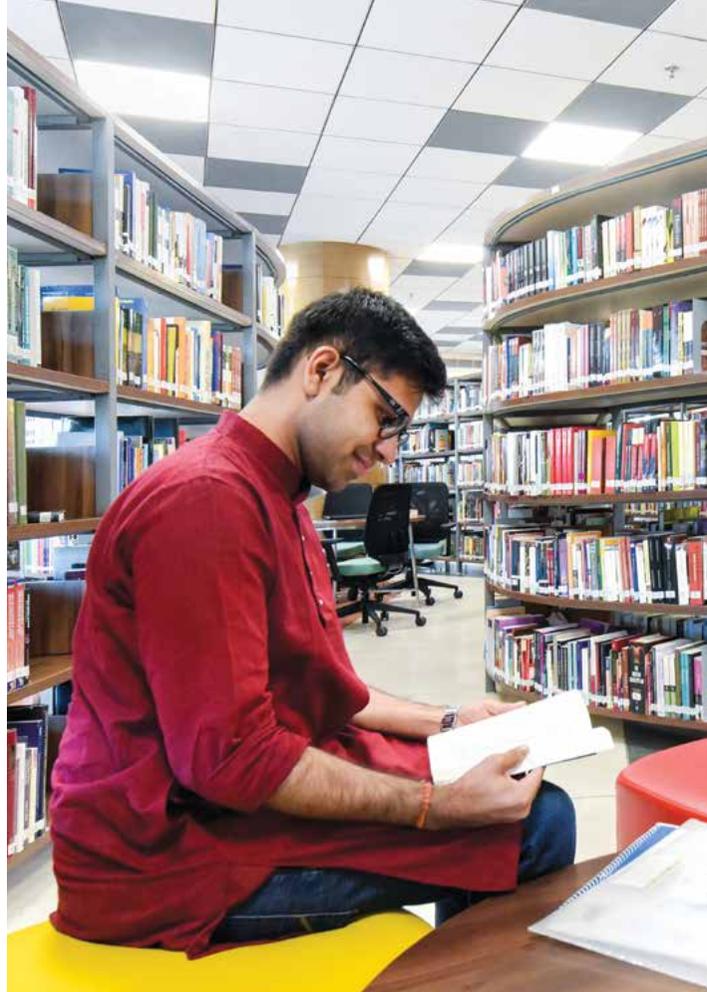
(Professor of History and Environmental Studies)

Srinath Raghavan also published two articles titled *The Security Dilemma and India-China Relations* and *Building the Sinews of Power* in the *Asian Security Journal* and *Journal of Strategic Studies*, respectively. Nayan Chanda has written five editorials for the *Times of India* and three book reviews.

Faculty members from the Department of Biology have published more than six research articles in prestigious journals like *Cell Reports* (Shubhasis Haldar), *Journal of Structural Biology*, and *PubMed* (Alok Bhattacharya). Kaveri Rajaraman (Bittu) published his research on neurobiology which was an invited article for a special issue on *Multimodal Mating Signals: Evolution, Genetics and Physiological Background*.

From the Department of Computer Science, Sudheendra Hangal wrote for the *Journal of Behavioral Research Methods*. Debayan Gupta published his research on digital security. Sumit Kumar Pandey's article on cryptography appeared in *Des. Codes Cryptography*.

In the Department of Environmental Studies, Aniket Aga's work on an interdisciplinary approach to solving the global food crisis has featured in *Frontiers*. He is currently working on two more monographs funded by Yale University Press. Mitul Baruah published a book chapter on *Rivers and Estuaries* in *The Routledge International Handbook of Island Studies: A World of Islands* (2018). In the Department of Economics, Pulapre Balakrishnan and Ashwini Deshpande published articles in reputed journals such as *Economic and Political Weekly*. Ashwini Deshpande has also published extensively on affirmative action, inequality, caste and identity in the form of book chapters and articles. Mihir Bhattacharya, from the same department, published



an article on constitutionally consistent voting rules over single-peaked domains in the *Journal of Social Choice and Welfare*.

Rajendra Bhatia (mathematics) published his research in the *Journal of Linear Algebra and its Applications*. Sraman Mukherjee (visual arts) published his work on *Relics in Transition: Material Mediations in Changing Worlds* in the *Journal Ars Orientalis*. Madhvilatha Maganti-Kari (psychology) published research on *Language Development in the early years of life in Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*. Maya Mirchandani (media studies) published two occasional papers in *ORF Online*. The academic year 2018-19 was a rewarding year for the University – a testimonial to the outstanding research culture at Ashoka, which continues to grow.

| GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS (2018-19) |

- **Anup Padmanabhan** (biology) received the DBT-Wellcome Trust Intermediate Fellowship.
- **Aparna Vaidik** (history) received the Andrew Mellon Foundation Grant for a Governing Intimacies Project in collaboration with the University of the Witwatersrand.
- **Ashwini Deshpande** (economics) received a grant from Wellcome Trust.
- **Anirban Mondal** (computer science) earned the DST Indo-Canada funded project on Urban Heat Island.
- **Divya Karnad** (environmental studies) won the prestigious Future for Nature Award 2019.
- **Durba Chattaraj** (sociology & anthropology) won the Andrew Mellon Foundation Grant for a Governing Intimacies project in collaboration with the University of Witwatersrand.
- **Madhvilatha Maganti** (psychology) received a grant from DST as a part of the Cognitive Science Research Initiative.
- **Manu Awasthi** (computer science) received Google Cloud Platform Research Credits for a research project on Novel Computer Architecture for Genomics Data Pipelines.
- **Meghna Agarwala** (environmental studies) received two grants from Azim Premji University for projects on crop burning patterns and urban pollution and a grant from WWF for a project on human-elephant conflict.
- **Mekhala Krishnamurthy** (sociology & anthropology) received a grant from the Gates Foundation and Center for the Advanced Study of India, UPenn.
- **Neha Dixit** (media studies) won the ACJ Award for Investigative Journalism 2018.
- **Raja Rosenhagen** (philosophy) acquired a grant from the Center for Philosophy of Science at University of Muenster.
- **Rajendra Bhatia** (mathematics) was awarded the CSIR-Bhatnagar Fellowship.
- **Sabyasachi Das** (economics) received a grant from Environment for Development.
- **Shubhasis Haldar** (biology) established the first covalent magnetic tweezers in India and was awarded Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship by the Department of Science & Technology. He is also a recipient of the Phadke Award by the Indian Biophysical Society for outstanding contribution to Indian biophysics under the age of 35 years.
- **Sraman Mukherjee** (visual art) received the Insight Grant from Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- **Sudheendra Hangal** (computer science) won the Digital Preservation Award for ePADD.
- **Vaiju Naravane** (media studies) won the Research and Travel Grant from the EHSS - School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences.



WHY BACKDOORS IN ENCRYPTION ARE A BAD IDEA

DEBAYAN GUPTA

As a cybersecurity expert, a common request I get from government and law-enforcement officials is about getting “backdoor” access to computers belonging to known criminals. I’ve had at least three such requests this year already, the most recent coming from a very senior Indian bureaucrat at the Kigali Global Dialogue in early July.

Inevitably, every time an atrocity occurs, we cryptographers hear the same argument. As David Cameron said after the Charlie Hebdo attack, “In our country, do we want to allow a means of communication between people, which even in extremis, with a signed warrant from the home secretary personally, that we cannot read? ... are we going to allow a means of communication where it simply isn’t possible to do that? My answer is no, we are not.” The justification, of course, was that these powers were needed by “intelligence agencies and security agencies and policing in order to keep our people safe.”

A commonly proposed solution is for the government to have some kind of “exceptional access” or “backdoor”, such as

a master key. This is difficult to do, both technically and operationally. What if the master key gets stolen? We are artificially introducing a critical weakness - a juicy target! Over the past few years, hackers have been able to steal everything from Angela Merkel’s emails, to the blueprints of the F-35 fighter jet, to lists of people with US security clearances (SF-86 forms). Trusting governments with master keys when they haven’t been able to safeguard their own leaders, military technology, and security data, seems like a bad idea.

The global nature of computing further complicates this problem. Other governments are not going to sit around and use compromised systems – they’ll build their own and stop trusting software made by residents of other countries, essentially creating import control on software. How would multinational companies secure their data? Would they be required to provide keys to every local government, or, perhaps, a branch of the UN? The creation of a global body to govern these master keys presents a herculean challenge. Further, nothing

prevents the subversion of that new body. Most importantly, if a criminal knows that some government has a master key to software #420, she’s not going to use it. She’ll find a system with no master key (these, of course, already exist).

Almost every expert in the field believes that subverting cryptosystems is a terrible idea, morally, economically, and technically. Many people who don’t really understand how encryption works have come up with many good reasons for exceptional access backdoors and opined that regulators and legislators must find a way to provide some privacy while allowing law enforcement access. This won’t work. Imagine a government insisting on structural changes to all airplanes while ignoring any advice from engineers. Yes, there are many good reasons for having backdoors (roll-down windows on airplanes might have many advantages), but the numerous fatal problems they create should have obviated this discussion long ago.

Debayan Gupta is assistant professor of computer science. He is also visiting professor and research affiliate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the MIT Sloan School of Management, respectively. His primary areas of interest include secure computation, cryptography, and privacy. Prior to Ashoka, Debayan held an extraordinary faculty position at MIT. He holds a PhD from Yale University.

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY & SOCIAL IMPACT

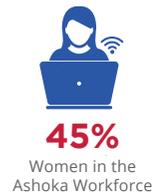
Ashoka is committed to making high-quality education accessible to deserving students, irrespective of their socio-economic backgrounds. In the last eight years, Ashoka has provided need-based financial aid of Rs 130 crore (USD 17 million) to 2,320 students – making it India's largest scholarship programme in higher education.

Apart from a vibrant student body, Ashoka strives to continually improve the representation of women in senior academic roles and achieving gender balance at the workplace. This academic year there are 27 per cent women in leadership positions as compared to 18 per cent in the last academic year. There are also more women leading student societies over the previous year.



Ashoka has been a life-changing experience. I have grown in the best possible learning atmosphere and it has helped me become the leader I have always wanted to become. It allowed me to unlock my full potential.

AQSA PERVEZ, UG 2018



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Academic programmes at Ashoka are delivered in collaboration with leading institutions. Ashoka's partner institutions work with the University to provide academic resources and innovate on pedagogical techniques. These collaborations also provide opportunities for students to participate in summer abroad programmes with access to international faculty. Currently, Ashoka has 20 global partnerships.

The University of Pennsylvania, University of Michigan, Carleton College, King's College London, Sciences Po, Trinity College, UC

Berkeley, Wellesley College, and Yale University have all entered into partnerships with Ashoka. Other institutions include Center for South Asia (Stanford University), University of Sheffield, HEC Paris, Tel Aviv University, Lehigh University, Duke University, Aizu University, and Victoria University of Wellington. In the academic year 2018-19, Ashoka signed an additional Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with King's College London. Two additional MoUs were signed with Amherst College and the University of Münster.

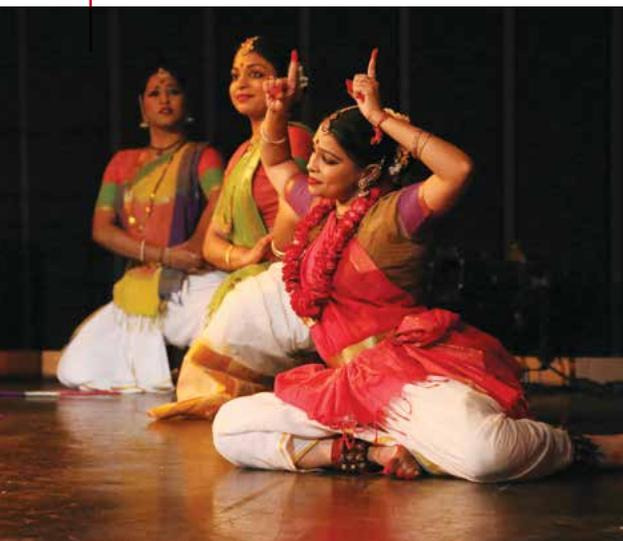
Academic year 2018-19



STUDENT LIFE

Students at Ashoka have access to a wide variety of co-curricular activities that are enjoyable and intellectually engaging. In 2018-19, student life thrived through events, intercollegiate competitions, guest lectures, workshops, and educational tours. These events revolved around the themes of leadership, inclusion and diversity, social impact, community development, self-care, and entrepreneurship.

Students are encouraged to form clubs and societies to pursue social, cultural, intellectual, and professional interests. At present, there are 43 clubs and societies, covering a wide range of student interests from theatre and debate to advocacy and social work. Members of the quizzing society, Mayukh Nair (ASP 2019) and Anit Basu (YIF 2019) were declared champions at the international finals of the prestigious TATA Crucible: The Campus Quiz held in Mumbai. Six large-scale inter-collegiate events were hosted on campus during the academic year. Ubuntu; The Indo-International Cultural Festival, witnessed the participation of over 700 students from all over the country.



SPORTS

The Department of Exercise and Sports aims to promote a healthy sporting spirit within the University in addition to inspiring and nurturing talent. For this, the department aims to reach out to every member of the Ashoka community through specially-designed activities and events. Ashoka organises coaching sessions in football, ultimate frisbee, shooting, table tennis, basketball, cricket, swimming, yoga, zumba, badminton, lawn tennis, mixed martial arts, and squash.

This academic year, Ashoka students displayed exceptional performance in the intercollegiate sports tournaments of universities such as OP Jindal University, Shiv Nadar University, IIT Delhi, and BITS Goa. They won a total of 22 gold medals, 10 silver medals and three bronze medals.



AN
UNWASTED
OPPORTUNITY:
OYE! AMBALA

ARCHANA GUPTA

In the Swachh Survekshan 2017, a survey that evaluated the cleanliness of Indian cities, Ambala was ranked 308 of 414. This finding energised the Municipal Corporation (MC) of Ambala to pursue the agenda of a cleaner city through its OYE! Ambala campaign, which launched in July 2017. The objective of the campaign was to achieve 30 per cent waste segregation at source in 60 days and to follow the Municipal Solid Waste Rules 2016, in letter and spirit. Speaking at the launch, the Municipal Commissioner announced, “Ambala will not become Paris in 60 days, but it will certainly have its own recognition in cleanliness”.

This, though, was easier said than done. Ambala, home to approximately half a million people, is littered with garbage. It was reported to be producing 200 tonnes of mixed waste daily, most of which was collected infrequently, or not at all, resulting in open garbage dumps across the city. The municipality responsible for waste collection had neither mechanisms of accountability nor safe working conditions for their safai karamcharis (sanitation workers), who were suffering from various skin infections. Employee morale was at an all-time low. When I began my term as an Associate, I spent my first few months trying to understand

how the city’s waste management system worked. I followed the workers as they went about talking to residents about segregation at source. I was shocked to see how quickly their interactions would escalate, turning almost violent. This was the first time the administration was reaching out to workers and trying to understand the challenges they faced on ground. As the Associate to Ambala, I was able to assist the Municipal Commissioner right from the beginning, participating in review meetings, providing unbiased feedback, and identifying monitoring and evaluation techniques.

Together with the core team, we fleshed out a plan for each component of the campaign. As a team (after several discussions and disagreements), we learned that it was essential to divide the goal into smaller, achievable targets. It was also important to expand the focus of waste segregation beyond households and upgrade waste management infrastructure in municipalities. A team of trainers were appointed to guide the workers on waste segregation. Issues of their career progression were also addressed. The workers were awaiting promotions for a long time – this was resolved within a month and protective gear was provided. Complaints

registered through door-to-door surveys were resolved in under 72 hours. Helplines were opened, and non-performing contractors fined for each unresolved complaint. The results were visible almost overnight. In about 40 days, waste segregation at source was achieved in four wards which were part of the pilot. The positive results in these wards encouraged us to scale it up to all 20 wards of the Corporation. Within four months, 80 per cent waste segregation was achieved across each ward in the city.

OYE! Ambala used a focused and inclusive approach to tackle a complex problem. In a span of eight months, from ideation to implementation, I observed how resource and infrastructural challenges can be overcome with excellent planning and citizen mobilisation. The problem of sanitation got resolved because 1,200 employees of the MC took ownership of it.

Blaming one another in the brainstorming meetings bloomed into appreciating and helping each other as the core team worked towards sustainability. When I now think of the project, I am reminded of the first conversation I had with the Municipal Commissioner: “Every problem can be solved, we just need to take ownership of it.”

Archana Gupta (CMGGA, 2018) worked with Ambala’s Municipal Corporation on waste collection through a campaign called OYE! Ambala. Before the programme, she worked as a Gandhi Fellow and in development consulting. She is currently preparing for the All India Civil Services Examination. In this piece she reflects on the campaign, its outcomes and learnings.

THE CHIEF MINISTER'S GOOD GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATES (CMGGA)

Launched in January 2016, CMGGA is a collaboration between Ashoka and the Government of Haryana. The programme engages young professionals to promote transparency, efficiency, and citizen-centric service delivery across different departments in Haryana. Over one year, Associates are posted in each of the 22 districts to work closely with the Chief Minister's Office and district administrations.

The academic year 2018-19 witnessed the success of many associate-driven projects within the programme. The Antyodata Saral project made Haryana the first state in the country to digitise over 485 services across 37 departments on a single platform. This platform can easily be accessed by citizens, removing the need to visit individual departments. Another project, Harpath, made Haryana the first state in India to create an app for citizens to file grievances related to potholes in their area. It also provides real-time monitoring of the status of the complaint. Associates also worked on renovating and creating knowledge hubs and resources and making the state litter-free through driving citizen participation.

Some district initiatives implemented in 2017-18 as legacy projects were taken up by the associates in the 2018-19 cohort and have gained commendable recognition. For instance, Jaagriti project started as a small scale project for women empowerment by facilitating the creation of safe spaces in Rohtak and Jhajjar. The project gained success in minimal time, leading to a partnership with UNICEF as a technical expert in taking the project forward. It has now expanded to include critical components such as overcoming gender norms through gender sensitisation workshops with children and parents.



Associates at the CMGGA Annual showcase 2019.

The results showcase the evolution of potential thought leaders emerging as part of the programme. The associates from previous cohorts have been working in various streams of social spaces such as UN organisations and NGOs. Some are pursuing policy in higher education while others have ventured on an entrepreneurship journey or are preparing for the civil services, all leading to an improvement in sustainable development goals and creating a positive impact.

ASHOKA ARCHIVES OF CONTEMPORARY INDIA

The Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India was instituted in 2017 to create a centre for historical and social science research in the country. The initial focus was to preserve primary source material for the study of modern and contemporary Indian history. In two years, the archives has achieved the distinction of acquiring the private papers of a former Prime Minister & President of India, eminent diplomats, journalists, authors, environmentalists, wildlife conservationists, writers, and artists. Currently, Ashoka hosts 28 archival collections.

The collection from Dr S Radhakrishnan (former President) is a repository of rare, historical material dating back to almost a century. The archives also hold papers from Anita Rampal (educationist), Kiran Nagarkar (writer), Barbara Harriss-White (academic and political economist), MN Deshpande (archaeologist), and Dunu Roy (social scientist & ecologist). The Hoot Archive of journalism is the first digital archive to be acquired by the University.

Digital catalogues of eight key collections completed during the year, namely – Chandi Prasad Bhatt (Chipko Movement leader), HK Dua (journalist and writer), Gopalkrishna Gandhi (diplomat and academic), Anita Rampal (educationist and author), Justice AS Anand (former chief justice of India), Anubrotto Kumar Roy (Chemical Engineer and social scientist), MK Ranjitsinh (wildlife conservationist) and MN Deshpande (archaeologist).



Postgraduate students from the MA (Economics) class of 2019.

ASHOKA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AAA)

The AAA was instated in 2015 when there were 449 alumni from three batches of the YIF. The association has now expanded to become a body of 1,455 members from four different programmes, that are spread over 32 countries and over 150 career paths. It serves as a platform for the alumni to engage with each other and the University. AAA's digital (the Alumni Portal) and social (local chapters) infrastructure enables the alumni to participate in various programmes like mentorship, guest sessions, placements, and internships.

They also enable task forces to work on institution building and providing alumni scholarships to deserving students. The academic year 2018-19 marked the initiation of the Alumni Relations Office, a full time office focussed on strengthening ties between Ashoka and the Alumni Association.





The dining hall, located in the heart of the University, is a pulsating hub of activity.



Above, right: The Student Commons provides a collaborative learning and recreation space for students and can meet their evolving needs. Its flexible design offers a choice of open and enclosed areas for group activities as well as quiet individual study.

Right: Located in the sports centre, the 24X7 gymnasium offers an extensive range of state-of-the-art equipment, making it a popular post-class destination.



CAMPUS

The campus embodies the values, ethos, and aspirations of the University – building future leaders and change agents in an environment that is transparent and dynamic. Through its architecture, Ashoka has facilitated a creative, inclusive and collaborative learning and research environment. The architects are Perkins-Eastman who specialise in university campus design. They have designed for Columbia University, University of Pittsburgh, New York University and ISB Mohali, among others.

GOVERNANCE

Ashoka incorporates and adheres to the highest global standards of governance in academic institutions.

The University is completely professionally managed with several bodies overseeing academic and administrative aspects of the institution. These range from the Governing Body, Academic Council, Board of Trustees, and Board of Management to other internal teams that manage diverse operational matters.

Ashoka has appointed professionals with strong competencies to supervise and execute wide-ranging administrative functions. These teams continue to scale in numbers and competencies as the University expands its capacity and operations.



Students with Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Chairperson and Managing director of Biocon Ltd, after her lecture. The University hosts several sessions for students to interact with notable people from across professions.

FUNDRAISING

Ashoka is built on the principles of collective philanthropic funding. The University has raised financial commitments of Rs 1,260 cr (USD 180 million) till 30 June 2019.

Commitments raised have been deployed for the acquisition of land, construction, buildout, and meeting operational expenditure of the first phase of the University and for subsequent expansion plans (the second phase).

Philanthropic funds have been raised from individuals across the world, Indian corporates through the CSR route, and a few foundations. Individuals and organisations who have contributed to the funding, above a certain threshold, have been recognised as Founders of the University. Contributions from non-Founders are acknowledged as Donors and Annual Fund Donors. (Details on pages 96 to 98.)

Our ultimate aim was not to establish one university, but to catalyse a transformation in Indian higher education. One Ashoka isn't enough for a billion minds.

SANJEEV BIKHCHANDANI
(Distinguished Founder and
Trustee, Ashoka University)



METRICS	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
STUDENTS						
Undergraduate						
Number of enrolled students	–	133	356	686	1,039	1,306
Diversity						
• Percentage of women	–	51%	55%	56%	54%	56%
• Percentage of students from non-metro cities ¹	–	30%	26%	31%	32%	35%
• Percentage of international students	–	4%	4%	5%	5%	6%
Postgraduate						
Number of enrolled students	100	191	206	219	323	374
Diversity						
• Percentage of women	64%	54%	57%	64%	59%	53%
• Percentage of students from non-metro cities ¹	39%	47%	51%	53%	48%	45%
FINANCIAL AID						
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (UG)	–	55%	54%	44%	46%	47%
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (PG)	100%	100%	100%	100%	96%	95%
Cumulative amount of aid (Rs cr)	13	23	37	58	87	130
ALUMNI						
Number of alumni	154	254	449	642	977	1,455
• Percentage based out of India	93%	91%	92%	91%	91%	88%
• Percentage based out of foreign countries	7%	9%	8%	9%	9%	12%
PLACEMENTS						
Number of recruiters who hired	–	61	87	75	120	132
Percentage of students placed ²	–	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%
ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH						
Number of applications ³	3,095	2,403	5,434	6,603	7,139	6,433
Number of institution touch-points ⁴	10	280	408	490	610	497
• India	10	280	408	465	546	497
• International	0	0	0	25	64	0

NOTES:

In 2013, the YIF programme was held in New Delhi. The Ashoka campus in Sonapat was inaugurated in 2014, along with the commencement of the UG programme

¹ All cities excluding Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, and Mumbai

² This includes all students (UG & PG) who opted for placement services

³ Includes applications for the UG programme and YIF

⁴ Both online and offline engagements (webinars, workshops, presentations, online counselling sessions, seminars, and stalls)

METRICS	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
FACULTY						
Undergraduate						
Number of faculty	–	20	49	83	105	146
• Full-time faculty	–	15	33	47	69	92
• Visiting faculty	–	5	16	36	36	54
Percentage of women	–	30%	39%	35%	35%	39%
Student to faculty ratio ⁵	–	7:1	7:1	8:1	10:1	9:1
YIF						
Number of faculty	25	25	27	33	44	41
• Full-time faculty	–	11	8	9	11	13
• Visiting faculty	25	14	19	24	33	28
Percentage of women	33%	32%	29%	38%	57%	57%
Student to faculty ratio ⁵	4:1	7:1	7:1	6:1	6:1	7:1
STAFF						
Number of employees	30	37	119	150	172	197
Percentage of women	32%	27%	43%	45%	49%	45%
INTL. UNIV. COLLABORATIONS						
Number of partnerships	7	9	11	14	17	20
Countries of partner institutions	2	4	5	6	7	7
Number of partners from top 200 institutions ⁶	5	6	6	7	8	8
INFRASTRUCTURE						
Total constructed area (in '000 sq ft) ⁷	–	279	361	792	1,019	1,019
Student housing capacity ⁸	–	371	770	1,469	2,124	2,124
FUNDRAISING						
Total commitments raised (Rs cr)	273	429	639	834	1,065	1,260
Commitments raised during the year (Rs cr)	200	156	210	195	218	210
Number of Founders	33	61	85	96	111	128

NOTES:

⁵ Not calculated according to the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) metric

⁶ Calculated according to QS rankings

⁷ The permissible areas have been calculated as per Floor Space Index (FSI) allowed by Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA)

⁸ Number of students

PEOPLE



Ashoka has created – and continues to invest in – an organisational structure that fosters academic growth and administrative excellence. The University's overall leadership vests with the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and distinct teams have been appointed to meet diverse academic and administrative requirements.

The academic side of the institution is led by Deans and Directors of Academic Centres while the administrative functions are led by Vice Presidents and Directors for various functions.

The University continues to attract and recruit outstanding academics to its faculty group while simultaneously investing in building administrative capabilities to address growth. The following pages highlight the names of Ashoka's leadership team.

| LEADERSHIP TEAM |

Rudrangshu Mukherjee
Chancellor

Malabika Sarkar
Vice-Chancellor

Pratap Bhanu Mehta
Vice-Chancellor (till 1.08.2019)

Rajesh Garodia
Pro Vice-Chancellor

Upinder Singh
Dean of Faculty

Vanita Shastri
Dean, Global Education and Strategic Programmes

Deepak Mehta
Dean of Academic Affairs
Mahesh Rangarajan
Dean of Academic Affairs
(till 1.04.2019)

Deboshruti Roychowdhury
Dean of Student Affairs

Aniha Brar
Deputy Dean,
Young India Fellowship

Eshwara Venkatesam
Vice President, Development

Ali Imran
Vice President, External Engagement

Dipali Sheth
Vice President, People Strategy & Organisational Development

Munish Sahrawat
Vice President, Strategy, IT & Finance

Bhaskar Mishra
Vice President, Operations

Sachin Sharma
Registrar & Controller of Examinations



Gitanjali Gandhiok
Assistant Vice President,
Development

Priyanka Chandhok
Assistant Vice President,
Career Development

Anu Singh
Associate Dean,
Academic Affairs

Neena Goel
Associate Dean,
Career Development

Tom Raja Rosenhagen
Associate Dean,
Academic Affairs

Anirban Chakraborty
Director, Research & Development

Anu Batra
Director, Information Technology

Arvinder Singh Bains
Director, Campus Administration

BP Prakash
Chief Librarian

Rashmi Singh
Director, Office of Student Life

Reena Gupta
Director, Office of Learning Support

Richa Bansal
Director, Communications & PR

Anjoo Mohun
Director, Communications & PR
(till 9.08.2019)

Vineet Sabharwal
Director, Admissions &
Financial Aid

Vikram Bawa
Director, Outreach

Amit Kumar
Director, Chief Minister's Good
Governance Associates

Arvinder Singh
Director, Centre for Well-Being

Deepa Bhatnagar
Director, Ashoka Archives of
Contemporary India

Gilles Verniers
Co-Director, Trivedi Centre for
Political Data

Ingrid Srinath
Director, Centre for Social Impact
& Philanthropy

Kanika Singh
Director, Centre for Writing &
Communication

Madhavi Menon
Director, Centre for Studies in
Gender & Sexuality

Pavan Mamidi
Director, Centre for Social &
Behaviour Change

Neela Saldanha
Director, Centre for Social &
Behaviour Change (till 30.06.2019)

Priyank Narayan
Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship

Sudheendra Hangal
Co-Director, Trivedi Centre for
Political Data

| GOVERNING BODY |

Rudrangshu Mukherjee
(Chairperson)

Members

Amit Chandra
Ashish Dhawan
Deep Kalra

Pramath Raj Sinha
Pratap Bhanu Mehta
Puneet Dalmia

Siddharth Yog
Secretary to Government,
Haryana, Education Department
Vineet Gupta

Permanent Special Invitee

Sanjeev Bikhchandani

| BOARD OF MANAGEMENT |

Pratap Bhanu Mehta*
(Chairperson)

Members

Ashish Dhawan
Deboshruti Roychowdhury
Mahesh Ranagrajan
Malabika Sarkar
Rahul Mookerjee

Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Scott Dixon
Secretary to Government,
Haryana, Education Department
Vaiju Naravane

Vanita Shastri
Vineet Gupta

| ACADEMIC COUNCIL |

Pratap Bhanu Mehta*
(Chairperson)

Members

Abir Bazaz
Alex Watson
Anisha Sharma
Aparajita Dasgupta
Bhaskar Dutta
Bikram Phookun
Deepak Mehta
Durba Chattoraj

Gilles Verniers
Imroze Khan
Madhavi Maganti
Mahavir Jhawar
Mahesh Rangarajan
Malabika Sarkar
Meghna Agarwala
Pratyay Nath
Rajendra Bhatia

Ravi Kothari
Saikat Majumdar
Scott Dixon
Simantini Ghosh
Sraman Mukherjee
Vaiju Naravane
Vanita Shastri

Permanent Special Invitee

Sabyasachi Bhattacharya

* Since stepping down from his role as Vice-Chancellor, Pratap Bhanu Mehta no longer occupies these positions in the Academic Council and Board of Management.



| FACULTY (YIF) |

Full-time Faculty

Anunaya Chaubey
Clancy Martin
Geetanjali Chanda
Gilles Verniers
Jonathan Gil Harris
Madhavi Menon
Malabika Sarkar
Maya Saran
Nayan Chanda
Raja Rosenhagen
Rashmi Nair
Rita Kothari
Rudrangshu Mukherjee

Visiting Faculty

AK Shivakumar
Apurv Mishra
Arun Singh
Aseem Shrivastava
Devesh Kapur
Dilip Simeon
Dwight Jaggard
E Sridharan
Kartik Sheth
Kenwyn Smith
Manoj Mohanan
Mihir Mankad
Mihir Shah
Narendra Jadhav

Neelima Shukla-Bhatt
Omkar Goswami
Patrick French
Purushottam Agrawal
Ritwik Agrawal
Rohit Chandra
Rudra Chaudhuri
Santosh Venkatesh
Shobita Punja
Subhashish Gangopadhyay
Surinder Singh Jodhka
TCA Raghavan
Urvashi Butalia
Vijay Singh

Maya Mirchandani
Maya Saran
Meghna Agarwala
Mekhala Krishnamurthy
Mihir Bhattacharya
Mitul Baruah
Mohammad Amir Ahmad Khan
Nayan Ranjan Chanda
Nayanjot Kaur Lahiri
Neelanjana Sircar
Pallavi Raghavan
Pramoda Kumar
Pratyay Nath
Pritam Ghosh
Pulapre Balakrishnan
Rajendra Bhatia
Ravi Kothari
Ravindran S
Rita Kothari
Rudrangshu Mukherjee
Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Sabyasachi Das
Saikat Majumdar
Sandipto Dasgupta
Sharif M Youssef
Shubhasis Haldar
Sieun An
Simantini Ghosh
Somendra Mohan Bhattacharjee
Sougata Roy
Sraman Mukherjee
Srinath Raghavan
Subhasree Chakravarty
Swagata Bhattacharjee
Swargajyoti Gohain

Thomas Michael Mccarthy
Thomas Scott Dixon Jr
Tisha Srivastav
Tom Raja Rosenhagen
Upinder Singh
Vaijayanti Vaiju Naravane
Vinay Sitapati

Visiting Faculty

Abhijit Banerji
Abhinaya Penneswaran
Achintya Prahlad
Annette Theresa Taylor
Arjun Subramaniam
Arpita Das
Arunava Sinha
Benedicte Faivre-Tavignot
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Dhruv Raina
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Divya Krishnan
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Gopalkrishna Gandhi
Jean-Marc Deshouillers
Johanna Maria De Bruin
Jyotirmoy Talukdar
Lavanya Rajamaini
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Mandeep Raikhy
Mohammad Sadique
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Prakash Padkannaya
Punita Gurpreet Singh
Rajagopal Ponnusami
Rajesh Ram
Ranjana Dave
Ravindra Bhalchandra Bapat
Rinki Sarkar
Ruchika Negi
Ruchika Wason Singh
Rudra Chaudhuri
Sanjeev Jha
Shiv Prakash Yadav
Shivshankar Menon
Siddhartha Dubey
SK Shanthi
Sourav Pal
Sraman Mukherjee
Sreya Muthukumar
Sudipta Kaviraj
Sushmita Samaddar
Uday Pandit
Uma Katju
Usham Rojio Singh
Yashaswini Chandra
Yasmeen Tayebbhai

| FACULTY (UG, MA & PHD) |

Full-time Faculty

Abhinash Borah
Abir Bashir Bazaz
Aditi Chaturvedi
Aditi Sriram
Alex Solomon
Alexander Bruce Watson
Alexandra Cassatt Verini
Alok Bhattacharya
Amin Ahmad Nizami
Ananya Sharma
Aniket Pankaj Aga
Anirban Mondal
Anisha Sharma
Anup Padmanabhan
Anuradha Saha
Aparajita Dasgupta

Aparna Vaidik
Arghya Bhattacharya
Ashwini Deshpande
Avantika Bhatia
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Clancy Martin
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Deepak Mehta
Divya Karnad
Durba Chattaraj
Geetanjali Chanda
Gilles Verniers
Hemanshu Kumar
Imroze Khan

Janice Erica Pariat
Johannes Hendrikus Burgers
Jonathan Gil Harris
Kanika Mahajan
Kathryn Collins Hardy
Kaveri Rajaraman
Kranti Saran
Krishna Maddaly
Kumarjit Saha
Madhavi Latha Kari
Madhavi Menon
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Mandakini Dubey
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Ashoka University is being built on the principles of collective philanthropy. The University is grateful to all its Founders, both individuals and companies (supporting Ashoka through their CSR programmes). Ashoka is also thankful to Donors and Annual Fund contributors whose grants support a large number of scholarships at the University.

Each contribution, regardless of quantum, is received in the spirit of public trust and as an act of faith towards Ashoka's core mission.

Names of Founders (in various categories), Donors and Annual Fund contributors are listed below.

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(Chairman)

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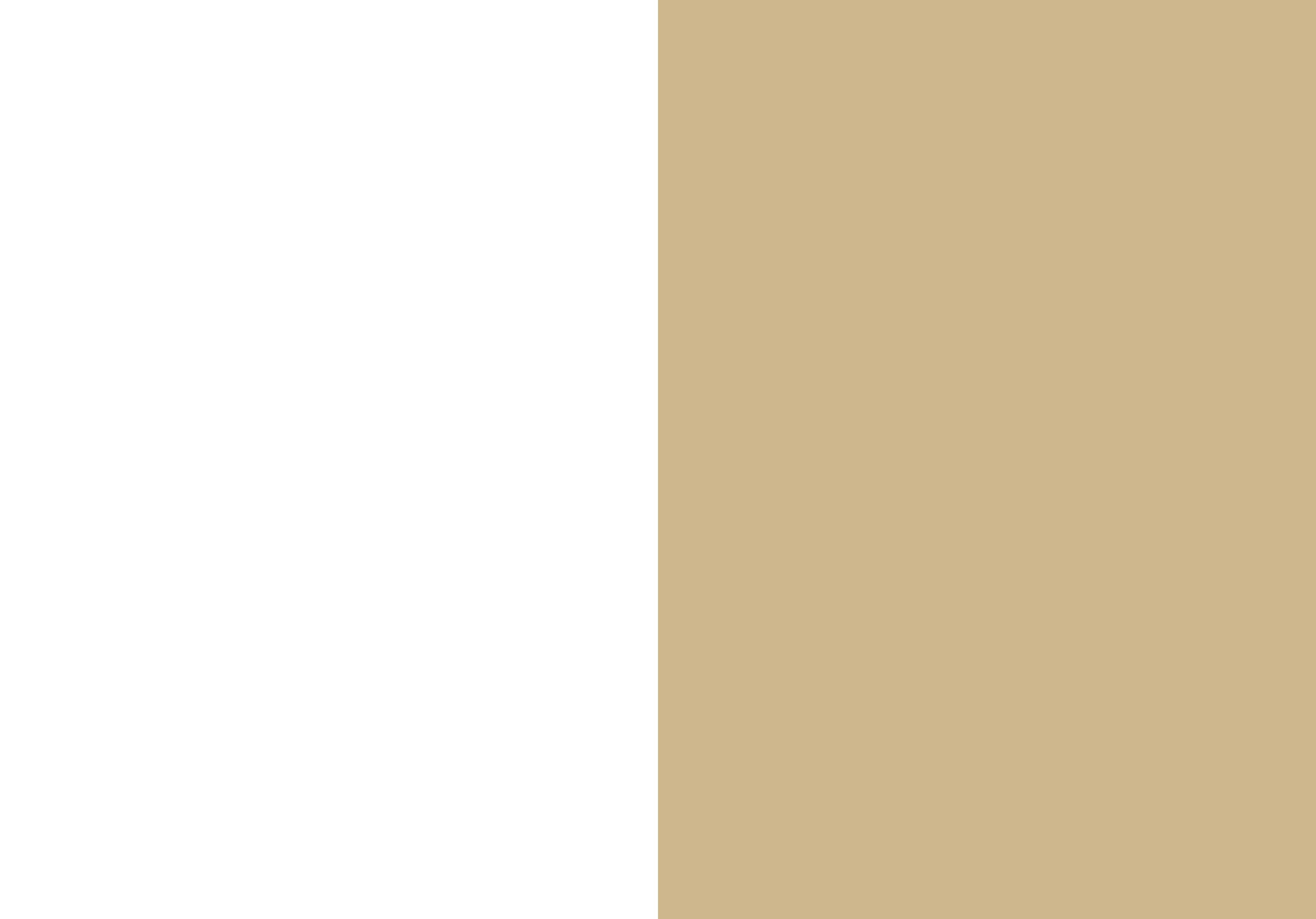
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Ashoka Founders on Founders Day 2019.





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