ashoka
UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL
REVIEW

2021-22

INDEX

Dear members of the Ashoka family,

I write to introduce to you the Annual Report of the University for the year 2021-22. The most important news that I wish to convey is that Ashoka University has emerged from the dark tunnel of COVID-19. The University is now fully functional with the campus thriving with students, classes being held physically and the administration working full throttle. This has brought great relief to everyone, especially the students who can now experience the entire Ashoka experience in every possible way.

As I wrote in my letter last year, the first phase of the Ashoka campus is now complete. The campus is now lush and blooming. I invite you to come and see it whenever you can. It will make you feel very proud. After all, your generosity and encouragement has made possible the completion of this 25-acre campus. The construction of the second phase of the campus has begun on the adjoining plots that have been acquired.

I have said over the years that Ashoka will always be a work in progress, it remains so as it meets and overcomes many challenges. Ashoka continues its journey to become one of the best universities in India. I urge you to remain a vital presence in this journey – an adventure in institution building and the creation of a unique centre of learning.

I would like to end by expressing my gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, the two Pro Vice-Chancellors, the Registrar, members of the faculty, the administrative staff, and all the service providers for their outstanding work in making Ashoka a stellar university. A big thank you to all the donors and Trustees for their continuing support to, and trust in Ashoka.

Yours sincerely,

RUDRANGSHU MUKHERJEE
Chancellor

Dear friends and colleagues,

As the world moves slowly but surely towards renewed vibrancy following the isolation and inhibiting circumstances at the height of the pandemic, I am happy to present to you the 2021-22 Annual Report of Ashoka University.

The story of this University from 2021 to 2022 is a remarkable narrative of an institution that collectively came together to adapt and innovate during closure and to restore, reinvigorate and celebrate once we could return to campus. In March 2022, exactly two years after the mid-semester break in March 2020 when the pandemic forced a closure of the campus and transition to online teaching and learning, we were able to welcome students, faculty and staff back to our beautiful campus.

In many ways the highlight of this year of transition has been our two undergraduate convocations. These were moments to celebrate the achievements of our students and the mentorship of our faculty in extremely difficult circumstances. In July 2021, still unsure about the trajectory of the pandemic, the University orchestrated a joint virtual convocation for the graduating students of 2020 and 2021. The convocation address was delivered by distinguished Economist and Nobel Laureate,

Professor Eric Maskin. In June 2022, it was possible to award degrees in person to our graduating students and our two distinguished speakers for the convocation on campus were Professor Maria Leptin and Professor Kelvin Everest. Our flagship programme, the Young India Fellowship, similarly held two beautifully planned and executed convocations for the Fellows, a virtual one in 2021 and one on campus in 2022. With Covid protocols still in place as a precautionary measure, the 2022 convocations were a signal that it was now time to think and plan beyond the pandemic.

Exciting academic centres continue to be envisioned and created at Ashoka. These include, the Centre for Translation and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research for which historians and biologists have come together. The interdisciplinarity and the deep cultural roots in which such centres are embedded give meaning to the annual lecture series that has been named the Ashoka Inspire Lectures. The first Inspire Lecture on Darwin was delivered in June 2021 by a very distinguished speaker, Professor Dame Gillian Beer, King Edward VII Professor Emeritus at Cambridge University. The second lecture is planned on campus in the winter of 2022-23.
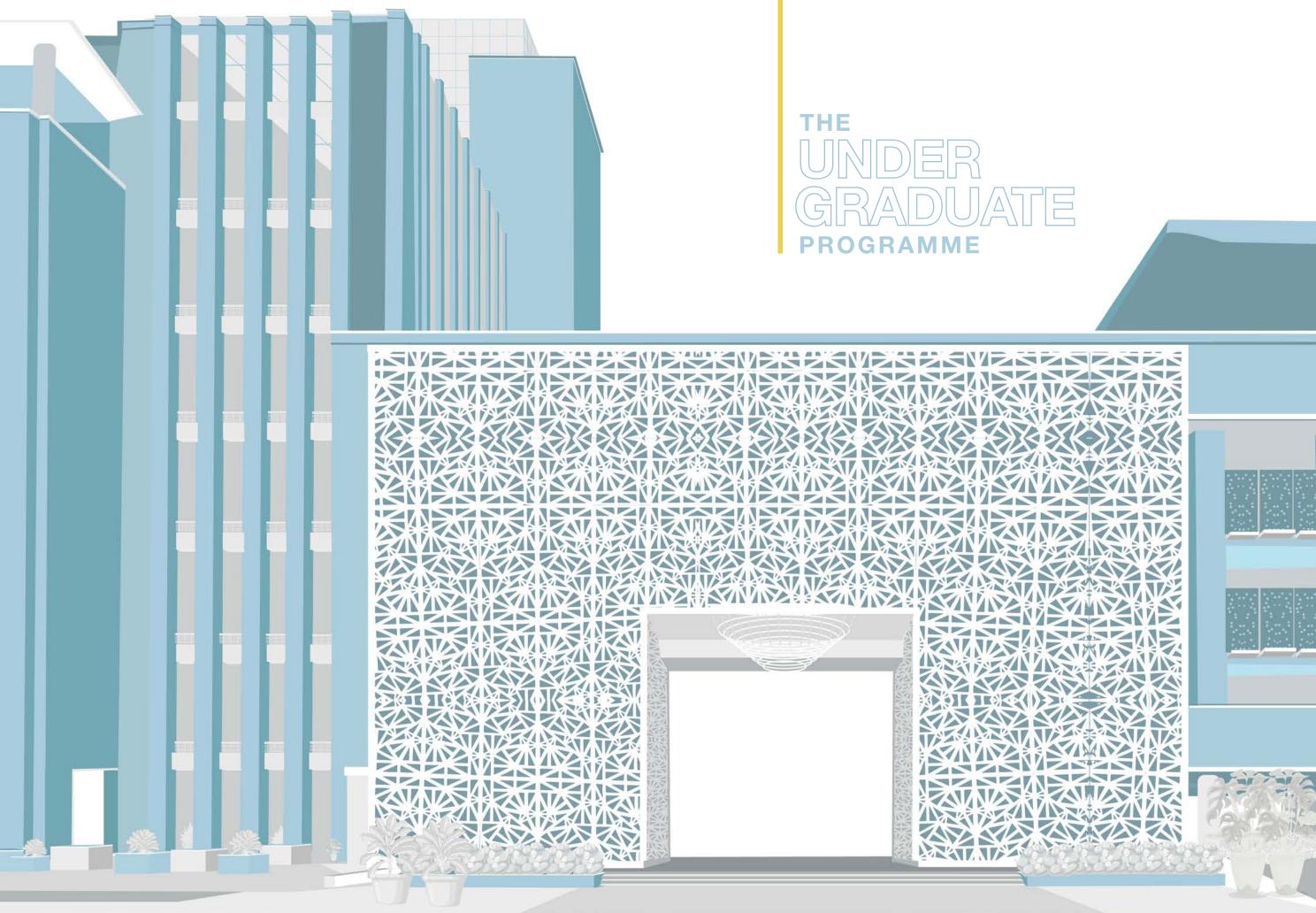
The acquisition of new land recently has facilitated plans for academic growth for the next phase of this University. Ashoka is now being recognised not only nationally but also internationally as a truly fine liberal arts and sciences research university. Teaching, learning, research, innovation, openness to inclusion and diversity, and awareness of sustainability goals for a better world – all of these are richly interwoven into the fabric of this University. As we look ahead to a great future, we continue to rely upon your good wishes and support.

Yours sincerely,

MALABIKA SARKAR
Vice-Chancellor

Ashoka is India's first university offering an integrated, multidisciplinary liberal arts and sciences programme. The undergraduate (UG) programme was introduced in August 2014. Ashoka's sciences programme – with physics and biology – was launched in 2017. Chemistry was introduced as a pure major in the academic year 2019-20. A distinctive feature of the UG programme are the foundation courses that precede the selection of majors and minors. These provide insights into different styles of thinking and are typically interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary in nature.
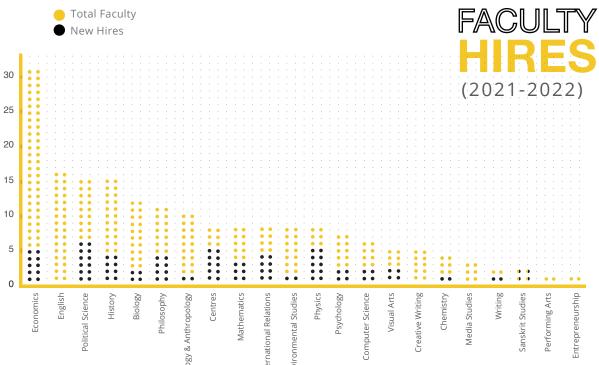
HIGHLIGHTS

The UG programme currently offers 12 pure majors and 11 interdisciplinary majors. Ashoka also offers minors in all pure majors and nine additional minors. Students can further opt for a range of co-curricular courses across the visual arts, performing arts, and languages. In the academic year 2021-22, over 2,000 students were enrolled in the three-year undergraduate programme. This included 685 students from the incoming 2021-2024 cohort. Additionally, this academic year also witnessed the introduction of a new minor in China Studies.

FACULTY
HIRES
(2021-2022)

Total Faculty
New Hires

Chart axis values: 30, 25, 20, 15, 10, 5, 0

Categories: Economics, English, Political Science, History, Biology, Philosophy, Sociology & Anthropology, Centres, Mathematics, International Relations, Environmental Studies, Physics, Psychology, Computer Science, Visual Arts, Creative Writing, Chemistry, Media Studies, Writing, Sanskrit Studies, Performing Arts, Entrepreneurship

Ananya Sharma (PhD, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Quintijn Kat (PhD, University College London) have joined the Department of International Relations. Naresh Keerthi (PhD, Manipal Academy of Higher Education) has joined as the first permanent faculty of the newly introduced Department of Sanskrit Studies.

Under the leadership of Ambassador Shivshankar Menon (Former National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary of India), the Ashoka Centre for China Studies got off to a promising start. Sayantani Mukherjee (PhD, Columbia University), Eloise Wright (PhD, University of California, Berkeley) joined as faculty for the centre and Keshav Kelkar joined as

Deputy Director (Master's in China Studies, Peking University). University faculty also worked towards the establishment of several new centres such as the Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research, the Ashoka Centre for Translation, and the Centre for the Creative and the Critical.
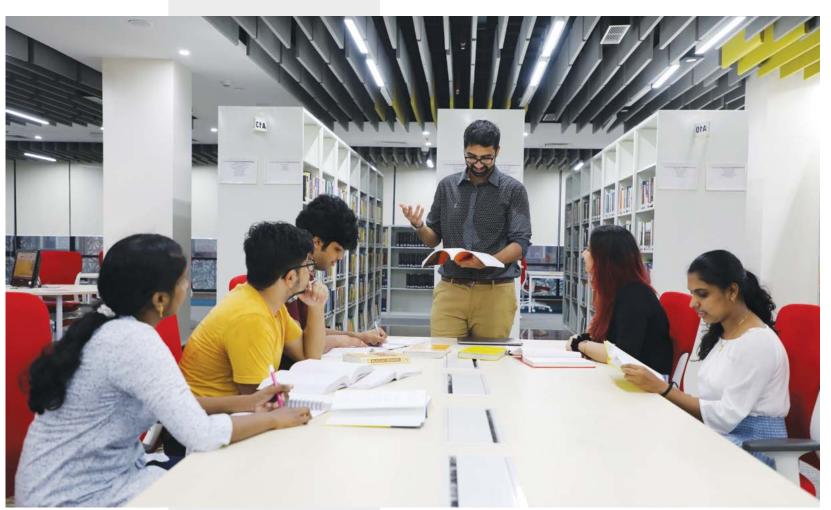
The academic year also witnessed many distinguished experts from their respective fields join the Ashoka community: Dipankar Bhattacharya (PhD, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru) joined the University as the Sunanda and Santimay Basu Astrophysics Professor. Anurag Agrawal, Former Director, CSIR IGIB, was appointed as Dean of Biosciences and Health Research.

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 152 permanent faculty members in 2021-22. Both sciences and social sciences departments witnessed significant expansion. In the last academic year, Sourav Pal (PhD, University of Calcutta), Director of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata, joined as Professor of Chemistry. Partha Pratim Das (PhD, IIT Kharagpur) joined the Department of Computer Science as visiting professor.

Guhan Venkat, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, in a group session with undergraduate students

ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Ashoka's outreach efforts continued throughout the year to create a diverse and inclusive cohort of undergraduate students. The efforts entailed 809 engagements with schools across the country. These engagements were conducted by means of school presentations, seminars, faculty workshops, and career fairs across 149 Indian cities and towns, 28 states, and four union territories.

For the upcoming academic year 2022-23, the UG programme received 6,103 completed applications. Admission has been offered to 685 students for the UG class of 2024. These students come from 14 countries, 410 schools, and 100 cities across 26 states 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.
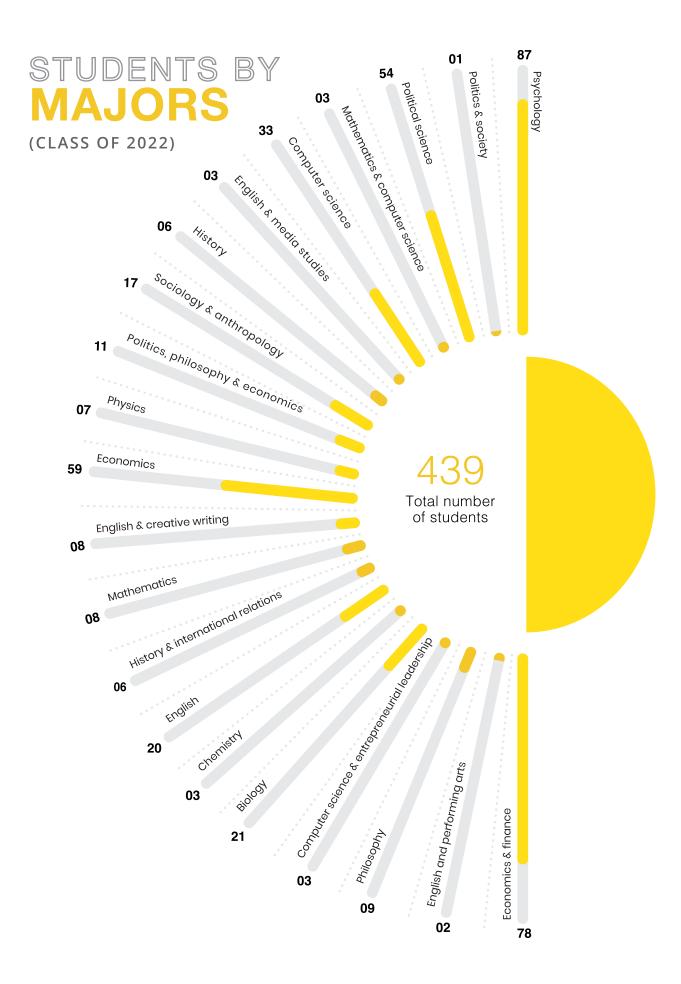
Students take two co-curricular courses over the course of the programme. All nine foundation courses are mandatory and can be taken in any order. Student performance has been consistently high since the University's inception. Right from the start, women continue to be better represented in the top performance band.

PLACEMENTS

The Career Development Office organised over 50 workshops to provide an overview of career opportunities and skill development training to students. The team reviewed over 700 resumes and conducted approximately 200 mock interviews during the year. Students also benefitted from access to quality one-on-one career counselling sessions.

The graduating batch of undergraduates and Ashoka Scholars have been offered employment by leading organisations across the country. The average salary for the undergraduate cohort increased by 29 per cent as compared to the previous academic year.

Undergraduate students accepted offers at organisations such as Google, Accenture, Amazon, Avendus Capital, Bain & Company, Barclays, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Fractal Analytics, NIIT, Publicis Group, and Xander.

STUDENTS BY MAJORS
(CLASS OF 2022)

439
Total number of students

- 87 Psychology
- 01 Politics & society
- 54 Political science
- 03 Mathematics & computer science
- 33 Computer science
- 03 English & media studies
- 06 History
- 17 Sociology & anthropology
- 11 Politics, philosophy & economics
- 07 Physics
- 59 Economics
- 08 English & creative writing
- 08 Mathematics
- 06 History & international relations
- 20 English
- 03 Chemistry
- 21 Biology
- 03 Computer science & entrepreneurial leadership
- 09 Philosophy
- 02 English and performing arts
- 78 Economics & finance

2021-22 ——— 69.0

2020-21 ——— 52.53

2019-20 ——— 32.2

2018-19 ——— 21.0

2017-18 ——— 12.5

Rs cr

FINANCIAL
AID

GRADUATE STUDIES

In 2022, the Office of Global Education and Strategic Partnerships (GESP) tracked over 90 students. A majority of the group received admission to prestigious universities across the globe. Sixty-eight students will pursue various master's degrees, while fifteen students are going to pursue their PhD degrees. They will join institutions such as the London School of Economics, SOAS University of London, King's College in London, Yale University, University of Cambridge, University of Chicago, and Columbia University.

This year two Ashoka students, from economics and English, became the first students from the University to be admitted to PhD programmes at Princeton University. Another graduating student will pursue a master's in social anthropology from the University of Oxford as an Inlaks Scholar. Subject areas Ashoka students are headed to study include veterinary sciences, screenwriting, ethnomusicology, human-computer interaction, digital studies of language culture, history, organisational psychiatry, and mental health.

FINANCIAL AID

Ashoka offers need-based financial aid and all incoming students are eligible to apply for full and partial scholarships. In the academic year 2021-22, 48 per cent of students enrolled in the UG programme received financial aid. Out of the 685 students admitted, 335 were scholarship recipients. This includes various slabs of tuition and residence waivers. Some students also receive exceptional aid which includes tuition, meals, residence cost, and an additional stipend. An amount of Rs 69 crore was given by way of financial aid to undergraduate students during the academic year.

CECILIA COSTA DA LUZ
UG 2021, BRAZIL

Ashoka struck me as a golden opportunity to learn political science and anthropology from outstanding faculty with a non-Western perspective. However, my experience has gone a lot further than only textbooks and classes. I have also been able to experience the multitude of languages, spices, and colours of India.

GRADUATION

After two years of virtual convocations, Ashoka hosted an on-campus convocation for the Class of 2022 in June. A series of ceremonies were planned for the day for 701 graduates to receive their degrees – this included the undergraduate cohort of 2022, as well as students from the masters and ASP (fourth-year) programmes.

There were two keynote speakers for the event. Prof. Kelvin Everest, Emeritus A.C. Bradley and Professor of Modern Literature at the University of Liverpool was the keynote speaker for the undergraduate ceremony. For the postgraduate convocation, the keynote speaker was Prof. Maria Leptin, President of the European Research Council.

ROAD AHEAD

After the successful implementation of systems to support a solid academic framework, Ashoka will continue to move towards the further standardisation and revision of processes and policies. Over the course of the upcoming year, plans are in place for further automating processes related to the Academic Management System (AMS). In the next academic year, over 700 students will join as part of the incoming cohort. 384 students from the current graduating class, will continue at Ashoka as a part of the Ashoka Scholars Programme.

The graduating cohort at the UG Convocation 2022

the first
ASHOKANS :
notes from the founding UG cohort

It is difficult to imagine that it has been six years since the first on-site visit that Ashoka organised for its founding batch of undergraduate students. I remember us all looking wearily at the half-constructed buildings on a vast plot of land as Professor Maya Saran assured us not to worry – the physical infrastructure would be taken care of, she said, but the really important thing, the intellectual infrastructure, was firmly in place. I remember passing by a children's adventure park on the Sonepat highway, with giant water slides painted in once-lurid, now-fading colours, and Professor Gilles Verniers' characteristic wryness: "As you can see," he told us all, gesturing towards the park, "There's lots of options for entertainment nearby."

The idea of Ashoka meant different things for different people. For some, it was a chance to explore the breadth and richness of the liberal arts while remaining rooted, at least to a degree, in the Indian context. For others, it was the relief of claiming and even enjoying one's confusion about what one wanted to study in college or pursue in life. And for yet others, it offered a chance to study what one really wanted – literature, say, or the performing arts. But if we were filled with a sense of possibility, numerous anxieties also contended for our attention, ranging from "How will I live in Sonepat?" to "Will we get jobs?" to "How do we convince people our university is *real*?" Not many batches have the privilege of saying they grew up with their university. For us, however, Ashoka University was not a structure we stepped into but one that we built as we went along – we made it and it made us. As we went through all our firsts – first college friend, first love, first A-grade, first failed exam, first research paper, first heartbreak – so did Ashoka. Before we knew it, we were the first graduating batch of the University.

Regardless of what we chose to study or why, our batch had an exhilarating journey. We experienced an unparalleled intellectual intimacy with each other and our professors – we learnt what it meant, in the truest sense, to think *with* other minds. We learnt to balance a respect for intellectual traditions with original thinking and to not only be rigorous thinkers but generous and accessible communicators as well. You also learn many life-lessons when you are part of creating something new. For instance, we quickly realised that if we wanted to change something, we had to make it happen – whether it was a new club or a policy change. And that meant we had to take ownership over both our actions and our mistakes. We had to become comfortable with stumbling, sometimes repeatedly, before we managed to figure things out. Being a part of Ashoka's founding batch taught us authenticity, grit, and even a certain audacity, but of the good kind.

Looking back at that day six years hence, I believe that above all else the Ashoka experience gave us

the courage to wade into the unknown. For it showed us that when you reject convention for uncharted terrain, life opens up in unimaginable ways. Those in the founding batch have the surety, no matter what career path we have chosen, that the road less travelled *is* worth it and that, I think, is the most invaluable gift of all.

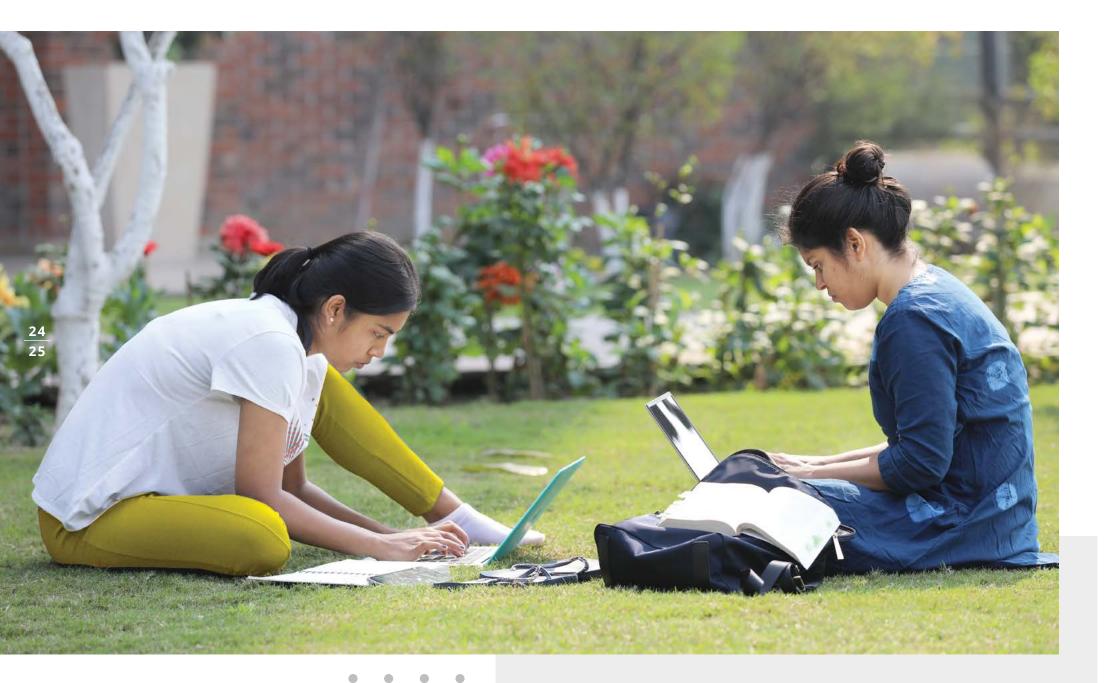## UTTARA CHAUDHURI

was part of Ashoka's founding UG batch and the first ASP cohort. She graduated with a major in political science and is currently pursuing a PhD in English at the University of California, Berkeley.
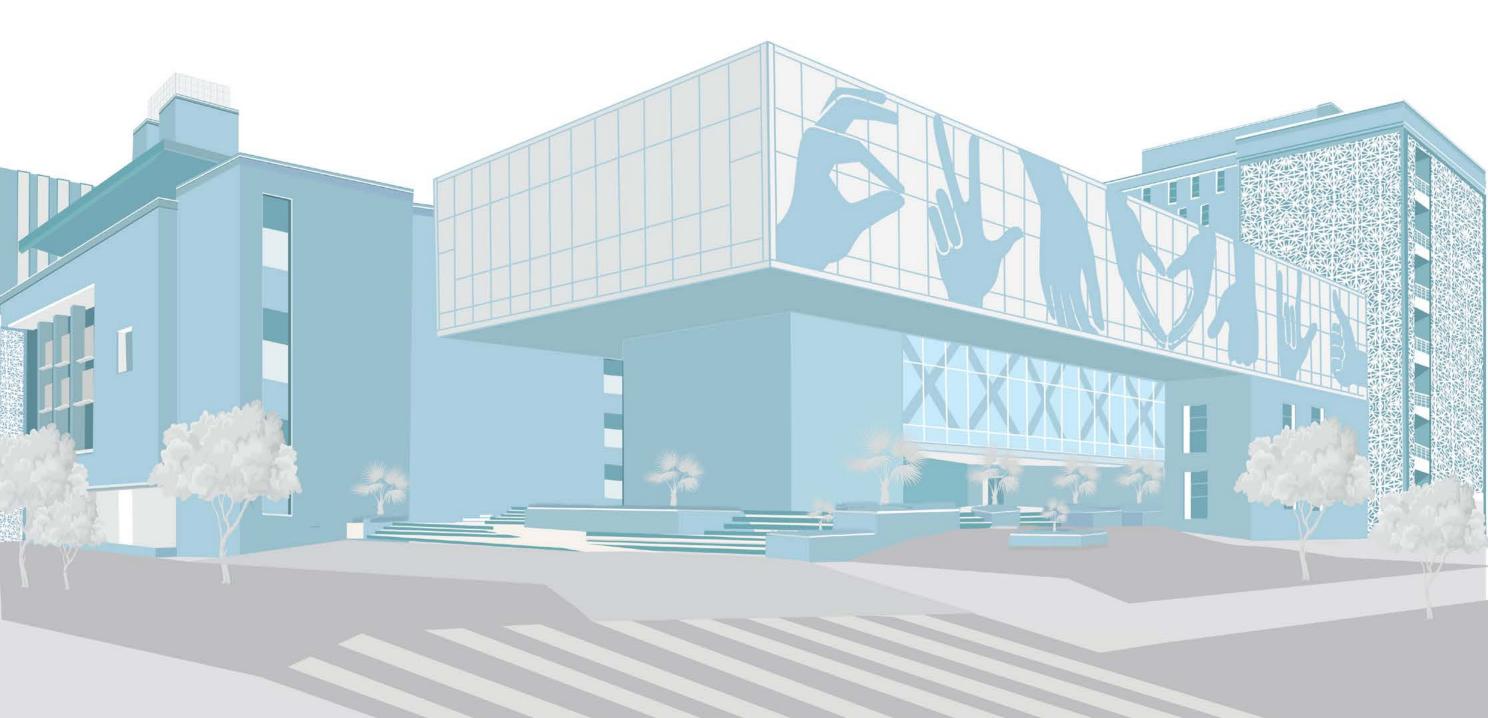
ASHOKA SCHOLARS
PROGRAMME (ASP)

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).

Students who have completed at least 92 credits of their degree programme within three years are eligible for direct admission. Once enrolled, scholars can pursue a variety of credentials. They can complete an advanced major, a capstone thesis, a second major equivalent, a minor, develop a concentration, or simply take courses as per their interests. Students who work on a thesis are closely supervised by academic advisors who support them in constructing thesis arguments and in choosing the right programme for their graduate studies.

The Young India Fellowship (YIF), Ashoka University's flagship programme, is a one-year multidisciplinary postgraduate diploma programme in liberal studies. The programme brings together young individuals who show exceptional intellectual ability and leadership potential. It further prepares them to become socially conscious leaders and changemakers for the 21st century.

The 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, humanities and social sciences, law, medicine, commerce, and science. The programme commenced in 2011 with 57 Fellows and in August 2022, the programme admitted its twelfth cohort comprising 100 Fellows.

HIGHLIGHTS

The academic year 2021-22 witnessed an important milestone for the programme as the YIF emerged from the shadow of the pandemic. While the programme commenced virtually, the improving situation allowed for the University to welcome Fellows on campus for the first time in two years.

The Experiential Learning Module added some challenging and exciting projects – including self-designed projects by Fellows. The domains spanned a variety of sectors such as governance, sustainability, education, and healthcare. Significant achievements were seen even when field-work was limited and Fellows had to connect with the key stakeholders remotely.

Left: Dwight Jaggard, Visiting Faculty, YIF, teaching a course titled 'The Foundations of Leadership'

Bottom: Prof. K VijayRaghavan, former Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, speaks to students on a visit to Ashoka in October 2022

FACULTY
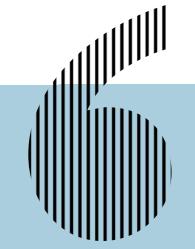
The YIF continued to invite distinguished faculty from Ashoka, as well as visiting faculty members from across the world (including those from partner institutions). During the academic year 2021-22, eight resident and 29 visiting faculty members taught at the Fellowship. This included five international faculty members. In addition, seven writing faculty members taught the Critical Writing course.

Ira Gupta, Head of Human Resources, Microsoft India, in a session with students

ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH

In 2021-22, the YIF Outreach team worked towards making the community more diverse. A digital-first outreach approach focused further on centralised engagements that spanned across demographic backgrounds and institutional affiliations. Over 80 engagements were held across event and initiative categories. Several new digital initiatives included The YIF Podcast and multiple faculty interactions. Engagement through college and community sessions, webinars, and workshops continued. The team received potential Fellow recommendations from Ashoka community members. It further strengthened the pool of

alumni interviewers involved in the selection process. An additional outreach initiative was made in collaboration with the University communications team this academic year. This led to press releases for admissions being announced in eight languages.

FINANCIAL AID

The YIF operates on a principle of admission wherein students are offered financial aid depending on the economic need and profile of their family.

	Rs cr
2017—18	8.2
2018—19	9.6
2019—20	12.0
2020—21	5.9
2021—22	6.4

FINANCIAL **AID**

THE YOUNG INDIA FELLOWSHIP

The diversity at Ashoka is mind-boggling. I relished the amazing people I met with their own respective unique stories and willingness to hear mine. The YIF has helped me fulfil my dream of studying culture, heritage, and history from leading scholars from India and overseas.
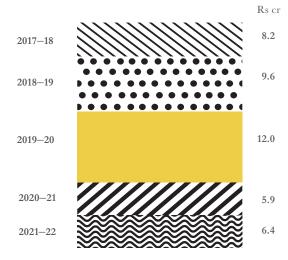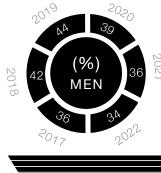
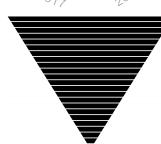MAHOOR SHAW, YIF 2018
(RAVI MEHTA SCHOLAR)

ACADEMICS

In the academic year 2021-22, the YIF offered a total of 38 courses – of these eight were core courses and the remaining were electives. Other than the writing course and Special Seminar courses, there were approximately 100 Fellows to every section. While the programme was conducted partially online, new faculty and courses were still brought into the fold.

The new elective courses offered included – *Issues in Social Democracy and Social Justice in India; Visual Storytelling & Cinematic Techniques; Cinema and Communication – Through the Practitioner's Gaze; Applying Behavioural Science – From Theory to Practice; Anthropology Today;* and *Who Governs India.* These courses were offered by a mix of faculty from Ashoka and other globally renowned academics. This included Narendra Jadhav, Meenu Gaur, Anirban Dutta, Pooja Haldea, Mekhala Krishnamurthy, and Gilles Verniers.

The Critical Writing Programme continued to engage Fellows in developing the core skills of critical thinking, reading, and writing. This was done through a range of interdisciplinary themes drawing from the social sciences and humanities. A team of seven writing faculty members taught the entire batch in small groups over an eight-month period. Innovative online pedagogies and a wide range of material were used to maintain the quality of courses offered. Collaborative spaces for the Fellows were created outside the online classroom and on campus to facilitate the exchange of ideas. The third edition of *Final Draft,* the YIF journal of critical writing, was launched in September 2021. This edition foregrounds the writing journeys of Fellows from the Classes of 2019 and 2020.
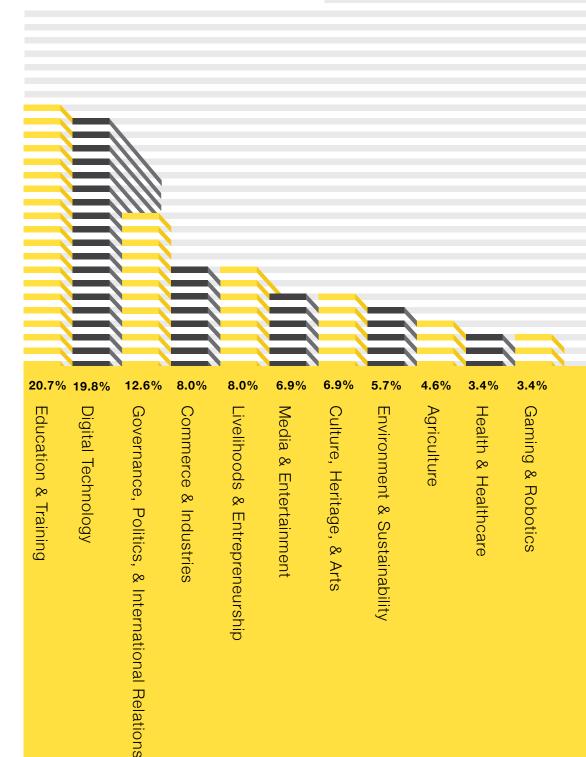
32
33

THE YOUNG INDIA FELLOWSHIP

(%)
MEN

2019 — 44
2020 — 39
2021 — 36
2022 — 34
2017 — 36
2018 — 42

(%)
WOMEN

2019 — 56
2020 — 61
2021 — 64
2022 — 61
2017 — 64
2018 — 58

GENDER DIVERSITY

DIVISION OF
ELM PROJECTS
ACROSS SECTORS

20.7%	19.8%	12.6%	8.0%	8.0%	6.9%	6.9%	5.7%	4.6%	3.4%	3.4%
Education & Training	Digital Technology	Governance, Politics, & International Relations	Commerce & Industries	Livelihoods & Entrepreneurship	Media & Entertainment	Culture, Heritage, & Arts	Environment & Sustainability	Agriculture	Health & Healthcare	Gaming & Robotics

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

The mentorship programme 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. They are then matched with Fellows whose journey they can positively impact. In 2021-22, there were 66 mentors from various domains and industries who supported a total of 120 Fellows.

A new online platform called 'Mentornity' was introduced to expedite the matching and allocation processes, making the administration of the programme more efficient. This also allowed the programme team to spend more time in building and nurturing relationships with mentors. This resulted in the development of seven high-quality Experiential Learning Module project proposals for the next academic year through the mentor network; internship and job opportunities for students of YIF and Ashoka; and bringing in five mentors for small cohort-based mentoring conversations as part of the inaugural 'YIF Mindboard Series.'

PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The YIF requires Fellows to undertake a six-month-long engagement with external organisations under the Experiential Learning Module (ELM). This is a core component of the curriculum – overseen by an ELM supervising faculty member, and members of the YIF programme team. During the year, Fellows worked on 40 real-world projects. Of these, 36 were projects with external clients, and four projects were designed by Fellows themselves. These projects served as effective platforms for them to hone their skills in problem-solving, teamwork, client engagement, project management, planning, and execution. Partner organisations included Carnegie India, University of Arizona, Indian School of Development Management, IIM Calcutta Innovation Park, National Institute of Urban Affairs, Pratham Education Foundation, and Teach for India.

Amidst the roadblocks and difficulties posed initially by the pandemic, the Fellowship received an impressive response from industry recruiters. Fellows who opted for placements were offered jobs across sectors such as banking and finance, consulting, media and advertising, pharmaceuticals, and the social sector.

Leading organisations recruited from the YIF, including Alvarez & Marsal, Business Standard, Deloitte, Deutsche Bank, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories , Gartner, Genpact, Hindustan Unilever, Michael Page, Samagra Governance, and TATA Trusts.

THE YOUNG INDIA FELLOWSHIP

The unofficial class photograph for the Young India Fellowship, Class of 2022

GRADUATION

The convocation ceremony for the Class of 2022 was held on the University campus in July. It was also live streamed on Ashoka's YouTube channel. The ceremony commenced with addresses by Chancellor Rudrangshu Mukherjee and Vice-Chancellor Malabika Sarkar. Professor K VijayRaghavan, former Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, served as the chief guest and the keynote speaker. Awards for the

year were announced by Aniha Brar, Dean, YIF. Apala Mandal received the YIF Scholar award for her outstanding academic performance. Shankar Keshav Prasad was presented with the Torchbearer award for embodying the spirit and ideals of the programme, while displaying academic and co-curricular excellence. The Spirit of YIF award was presented to Shivanshi Khanna and Anirudh Iyer.

THE ROAD AHEAD

With an aspiration to take the YIF to greater heights, the programme will now comprise roughly 100 Fellows each year. The 100 Fellows for the Class of 2023 hail from 20 states and 60 cities and towns across two countries. Sixty-two per cent of the class identify as women. One-fifth of the cohort holds postgraduate credentials, and 14 per cent identify as first-generation college-goers. Sixty-five per cent of the cohort will receive some form of need-based financial aid.

The orientation week for the incoming batch was successfully conducted on campus with classes commencing in August 2022. The Class of 2023 will be the first to witness two new additions to the programme – The YIF Crossover Series and the Alumni-in-Residence programme. These programmes have been instated to enrich the Fellowship experience by exposing Fellows to public intellectuals and stalwarts through immersive experiences. These will also give them further opportunities to engage with high-achieving alumni and their areas of expertise.

Ashoka has eight established offices that are geared towards managing and promoting aspects integral to its foundational objectives. Several of these offices look at different aspects of student development and well-being. This includes everything from placement services to learning support. Other recently established offices are oriented towards more academic functions such as research and faculty. These offices, along with three centres that primarily provide student services, are listed in this section.

ASHOKA PARENT'S OFFICE (APO)

The Ashoka Parents Office was established in order to engage with parents of students. The office addresses queries and concerns Ashoka parents have as important stakeholders in the student's academic journey. It also engages in outreach and keeps parents informed of university activities. The aim of these activities is to make parents active participants in the Ashoka ecosystem by seeking their help for internships, placements, mentorship, and funding.

In 2021-22, hundreds of parents were contacted individually — seeking feedback and eliciting support. Additionally, two in-person events were held in Delhi and Mumbai. Parents also attended other events organised by Ashoka. In September 2022, an exclusive Parents Fund was instated, and has already received contributions. The monthly newsletter, as well as social media pages for engagement, are steadily garnering increasing viewership and activity.

ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE (ARO)

The ARO sustains a mutually supportive relationship with over 4,000 alumni spread across the world. All students who have graduated from the University are members of the Ashoka Alumni Association (AAA). The ARO works to maintain engagement on multiple levels, from city chapter groups to batch groups. The office works with the Ashoka Alumni Board of Management and the Alumni Council to further the mission of the AAA. The association looks to strengthen the community by facilitating interactions between alumni.

The ARO also facilitates students interested in connecting with alumni working in their field of interest. This is done through programmes such as mentorship, internships, and other career opportunities. A student-led committee also organises programmes for alumni returning to campus, such as academic presentations, performances, and lectures.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF FACULTY (ODF)

The ODF oversees the functioning and welfare of Ashoka's faculty. The office coordinates with various departments for the recruitment of new faculty and oversees the tenure and promotion process. It is also responsible for the administrative management of faculty leave and sabbaticals and the annual faculty research grant.

Other aspects that fall within the purview of the office range from faculty-related data management to logistical assistance for new faculty. The office addresses day-to-day concerns that faculty may have, within and outside the classroom.

Reena Gupta , Director, OLS, in a session with staff focusing on inclusion at the workplace

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (RDO)

Research at Ashoka spans a diverse range of approaches in various areas of basic sciences, humanities, economics, and the social sciences. The RDO was established to connect faculty and researchers with multiple resources. In 2021-22, RDO facilitated over 50 extramural faculty grants from 28 funding agencies (15 international and 13 domestic). Over INR 10 crore was disbursed as faculty extramural research grants in the last financial year.

Students on campus as part of the Visiting Students Programme organised by the GESP

The team provided support to establish facilities for various departments including the Department of Chemistry. Newly established laboratories include the EVS soil testing lab, MakersSpace lab, Fruit fly lab, Hydrodynamics lab, and Astrophysics lab. Various other facilities such as computational and imaging facilities have also been set up. The office assisted in the recruitment and management of research staff (81 members) and PhD scholars (132 scholars) across all departments. It actively developed concept notes and marketing collateral to foster new collaborations, raise funds, and increase the impact of Ashoka's research. The team was also extensively involved in conceptualising and promoting outreach and engagement activities and capacity-building workshops.

OFFICE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (GESP)

The GESP office at Ashoka leads all international partnerships working with other academic institutions to negotiate, develop, and manage global collaborations. Currently, Ashoka has over 30 partnerships with universities across the globe. Between January and April, the office advised over 250 Ashoka students on options for study-abroad programmes. Over 50 students attended summer courses abroad and nine students are engaged in research fellowships or unique programmes. From these, 25 students received summer financial aid from Ashoka. Universities attended for summer courses included Yale University, Cornell University, Stanford University, and London School of Economics.

As a part of the Visiting Students Programme, organised by the office, 23 international students also took part in Ashoka's summer semester. The students came from partner universities such as Princeton University, Northeastern University, and King's College London. The GESP also hosted Ashoka's hybrid summer semester programme with 18 courses offered in-person and online. Of these two were Global Joint Courses with Princeton University and Northeastern University.

STUDENT SERVICES–OFFICES & CENTRES

OFFICE OF LEARNING SUPPORT (OLS)

The OLS works to create an inclusive learning environment for students with physical, sensory, and learning disabilities. The office also acts as a resource centre for disability-related information, and uses a collaborative approach to provide individualised support.

Additionally, it offers services in the areas of accessibility, academic accommodations, and assistive technology for a diverse range of learning needs. Over the past academic year, the office conducted various events and programmes to create an enabling environment for students with disabilities in higher education. Major events conducted at Ashoka include the Peer Learning Support Programme, a student-led mentorship programme and the NeuroDiversity Initiative, an online awareness campaign.

The office also conducted various programmes off-campus including the third edition of its flagship College Readiness Programme for high school students with disabilities. It also hosted its first-ever virtual conference, The Dyslexic Mind: Thinking Differently about Higher Education.

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS (OSA)

The OSA comprises three branches, Student Life, Residence Life, and Sports & Exercise. Through these branches, the OSA aims to work towards nurturing a well-rounded and enriching campus experience for students. This includes the physical and mental well-being of each student, their cultural enrichment, and the creation of empowerment opportunities.

During the academic year, the OSA secured institutional membership with the National Association for Campus Activities. The office also spearheaded the successful reopening of the University campus. After two years, the entire student body was welcomed back for in-person classes in March 2022, while ensuring strict compliance with all safety standards.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (OAA)

The OAA administers the full spectrum of the University's undergraduate academic experience. This ranges from managing course registrations, assigning mentors, facilitating faculty feedback, and conducting the degree check process. The degree check process assesses whether or not a student has met all the requirements necessary to graduate. The OAA works closely with faculty to develop academic programmes. It also liaises with other offices and teams to manage issues impacting academic performance and improve processes. At the end of each semester, the office releases the Dean's List, honouring students with the best academic records in the semester.

In 2021-22, the OAA worked on updating its policies – including the Academic Integrity Policy. The Academic Management System was strengthened by the integration of portals for students to raise queries and book appointments. The degree check process has been completely automated and has operated flawlessly for the previous three years. The office will continue to automate necessary processes as the student body expands.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (CDO)

The CDO helps students evaluate 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. In 2021-22, the office hosted a cumulative total of 800 hours in one-on-one career counselling, reviewed over 700 resumes, and conducted approximately 200 mock interviews.

In the 2021-22 placements drive, over 125 organisations participated from various industries. This included banking, financial services, consulting, consumer goods, and edtech firms. Various business process outsourcing and knowledge process outsourcing organisations participated as well.

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 centre has also developed a year-long English language support programme, critical to Ashoka's inclusion and diversity objectives.

In the academic year, the CWC offered two courses on English communication in addition to conducting the Academic Bridge Programme. The centre also organised a Winter School on research writing. This was followed by the Summer School which, in addition to teaching academic writing, included engagement with topics such as creative writing, and popular science writing. CWC Engage, the centre's external collaborations initiative, involved working with O.P. Jindal Global University, IISER Pune, IC3 Institute, Christ University, and Central Square Foundation. The Creative Programmes series covered a range of topics – from digital mapping, anthropocene and the humanities, to filing RTIs.

Students at an Academic Bridge Programme session facilitated by the CWC. The programme was instated by the Office of Admissions in 2018.

In addition to releasing a podcast, the CWC also continued with its YouTube Shelf Pick series. The series involves members of the team recommending their favourite books from bookstores across India.

INFO EDGE CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CFE)

The Info Edge CfE serves as an academic centre for encouraging and accelerating start-ups. Activities are targeted towards inspiring, inculcating, and incubating an entrepreneurial mindset along with venture creation.

To inspire students, the centre conducts various events and programmes. This includes the Startup Bootcamp. The CfE also hosts a podcast titled *Guftagu* (conversation) with entrepreneurs from Shark Tank India. Over 100 renowned guest speakers including Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Vijay Shekhar Sharma, and Naresh Trehan interacted with students this year.

The Department of Entrepreneurship, housed at the CfE, offers a range of over 30 courses in entrepreneurship and management studies. The academic minor titled Entrepreneurial Leadership and Strategy includes courses in leadership, strategy, and digital transformation. To inspire student ideas, the centre has its flagship Entrepreneur in Residence programme and an in-house Startup Incubation lab.

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After graduating I was incubated as part of the Entrepreneur-in-Residence programme which provided regular mentorship and guidance throughout Edunify's growth journey, and this has been of tremendous help. For startups, guidance is as important as financial support and I am just so glad I got that from my own university."

HARSH KARAMCHANDANI
UG 2019, FOUNDER, EDUNIFY

STUDENT SERVICES– OFFICES & CENTRES

ASHOKA CENTRE FOR WELL-BEING (ACWB)

The ACWB offers counselling and psychological support for the Ashoka community. 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 is on the preventive, clinical, and promotional aspects of mental well-being.
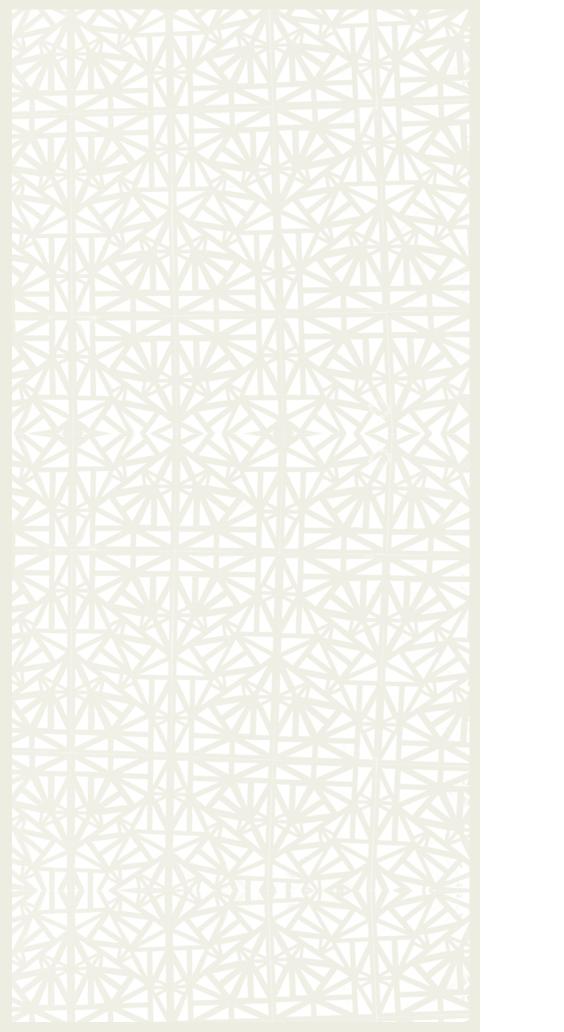
Through the pandemic, the centre continued to provide counselling support through a telephonic helpline and other virtual services. In 2021, the centre provided support to around 1,400 members of the Ashoka community through nearly 3,400 hourly sessions. It also provided round-the-clock support and intervention with the goal of averting a crisis in time. The number of people who regularly approach the centre is a testimony to the commitment the community has towards mental health and well-being. The centre regularly conducts research to observe various trends in mental health within the University which helps in planning timely interventions. ACWB also regularly extends its support to the wider community through awareness programmes, social media advocacy, interactive workshops, and group sessions within and outside Ashoka. In 2021-22, the centre organised a two-day conference as part of a research collaboration between Ashoka and the University of Cambridge. It addressed the increasing global and Indian issue of mental health, in relation to psychotherapeutic and social science perspectives.

Pictures from an ACWB event with centre director Arvinder Grover. The centre organises workshops to support the mental health of Ashoka's staff at various levels
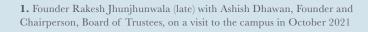
1. Founder Rakesh Jhunjhunwala (late) with Ashish Dhawan, Founder and Chairperson, Board of Trustees, on a visit to the campus in October 2021

2. Imtaiyazur Rahman, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, UTI Mutual Fund, with Chancellor Rudrangshu Mukherjee outside the UTI AMC Lecture Room

3. Students work in the kitchen garden they actively maintain outside Student Hostel 2

4. Prof. K VijayRaghavan, former Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, at Ashoka in October 2022. He was also the keynote speaker and chief guest for the YIF Convocation

5. Students pose at the Spring Haat held in the atrium in March 2022

6. Founder Chandana Singh and Reena Gupta, Director, Office of Learning Support (OLS), in an informal conversation with students. Chandana is a founder and consultant at Advocacy for Dyslexia and was instrumental in establishing the OLS at Ashoka

7. An artist performing Lavani, a combination of traditional song and dance from Maharashtra. The performance was organised in March 2022 by the Department of Performing Arts

8. Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, Nobel Laureate and President of the Royal Society, speaking at the launch of the Trivedi School of Biosciences

9. Founder Deepak Parekh, Chairman, HDFC, at the Ashoka atrium with students

10. Returning students sign into their residences after the campus reopened in March 2022

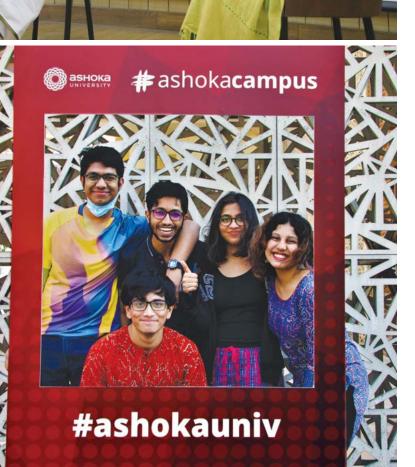**11.** Students glad to be back on campus pose at a photo booth in the central atrium

12. Carnatic musician and author TM Krishna in conversation with Nayanjot Lahiri, Professor of History, at the launch of the Edict Project

What I talk about when I talk about DISEASE

After I tell people I work on modelling COVID-19, I wait for the inevitable question: When will it all finish?

My answer: It's complicated. How pandemics die out is as much a matter of the disease as it is of how people interact with each other. The second is much harder to predict. But not for some time, certainly, and we'll need to be vigilant. This will be our new normal, for a while to come.

What's a biophysicist doing studying public health? I'm trained to think about mathematical models but a long-standing interest of mine has been their use in framing good public policy. For this, one needs to know models well but also to understand when and how models can fail.

One reason for me to move to Ashoka was to be able to explore the space between mathematical models, public health policy, and the public awareness of science. That my move happened at the cusp of the COVID-19 pandemic is an inexplicable coincidence.

I have been involved in the Indian Scientists Response to COVID-19 (ISRC), a collective of scientists, social workers, doctors, science communicators, and grass-roots activists from across India, indeed the world. Our modelling group at the ISRC has developed the most accurate model for COVID-19 in India currently: INDSCI-SIM. But this model, like all other similar ones, lacks the granularity we require. We need something more.

Suppose we could model, on a computer, every individual in India to understand how an infectious disease would spread. We'd need only those properties important in terms of the disease. For COVID-19, for example, this is being diabetic and in the greater-than-60 age-bracket. But we could also add their access to hospital care, their geographical locations and more. We would be creating a synthetic population, made of computer "agents". We could then run computer programmes using these agents, to describe how an infectious disease might spread. This is BharatSim.
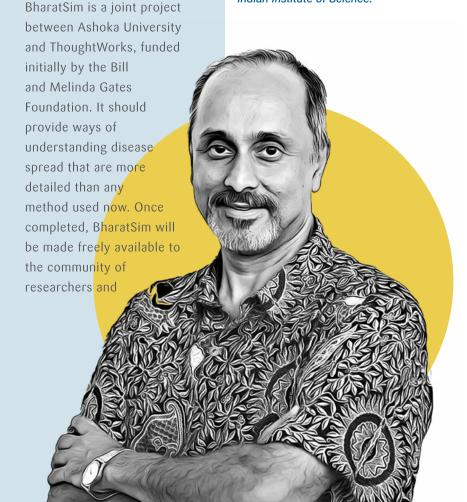
For the synthetic population, we need social scientists of all stripes to help us locate, understand, and assimilate available data. We need computer scientists, statisticians and epidemiologists to translate these into the simulation. We need students to help us fit these many parts together. And we need collaborators from around the country, to help us refine it as well as to use it in their work. Indeed, BharatSim must be a community effort if it is to succeed.
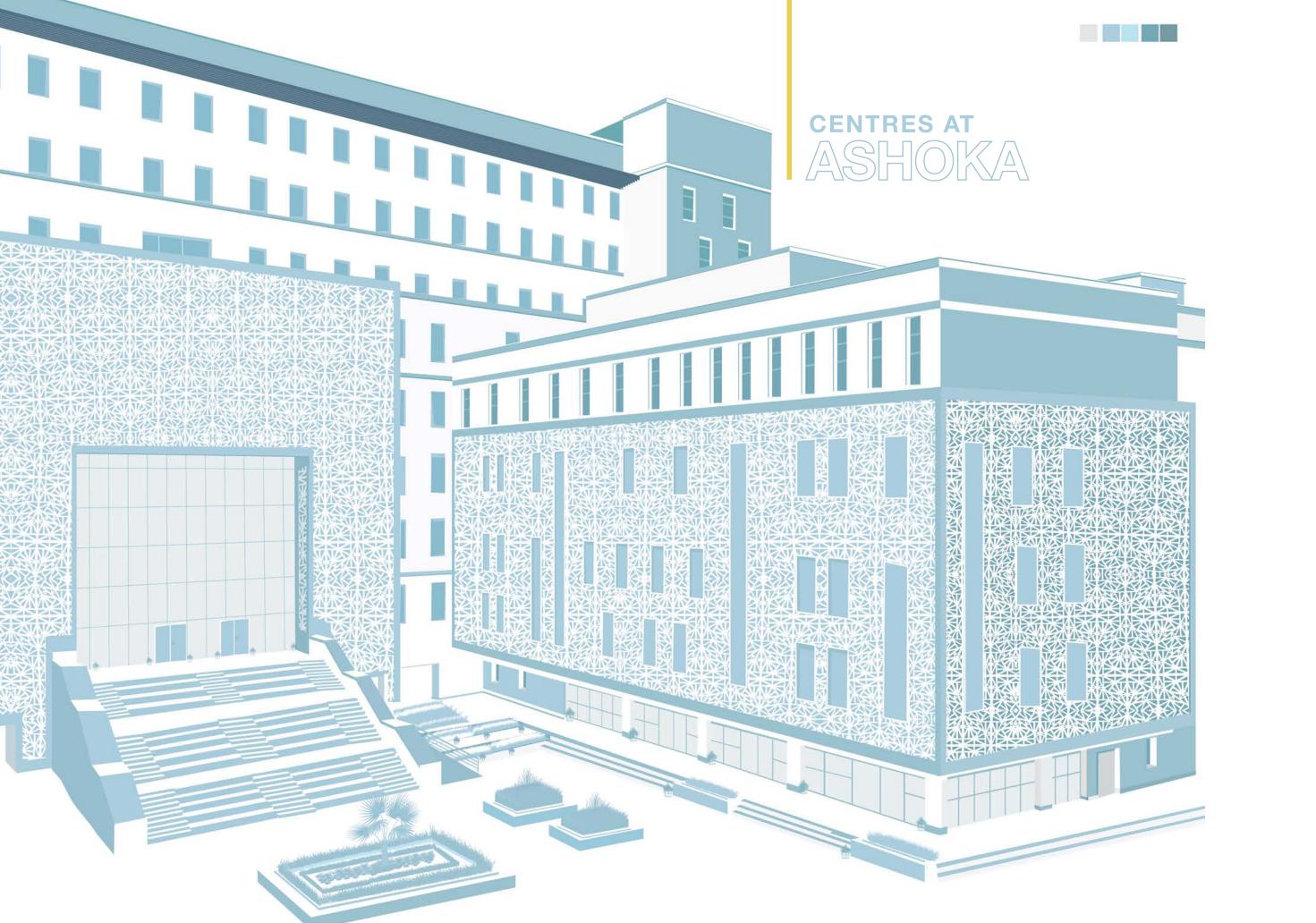
BharatSim is a joint project between Ashoka University and ThoughtWorks, funded initially by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It should provide ways of understanding disease spread that are more detailed than any method used now. Once completed, BharatSim will be made freely available to the community of researchers and policymakers. BharatSim will also have many uses beyond public health, but that's another story.

BharatSim sits at the bare edge of what is possible. It is a risky project. In that risk lies the opportunity to do something special, and for the very first time.

GAUTAM I MENON

is Professor of Biology and Physics. He has co-developed INDSCI-SIM, an epidemiological model for tracking COVID-19 spread across different Indian states. He earned a PhD from the Indian Institute of Science.
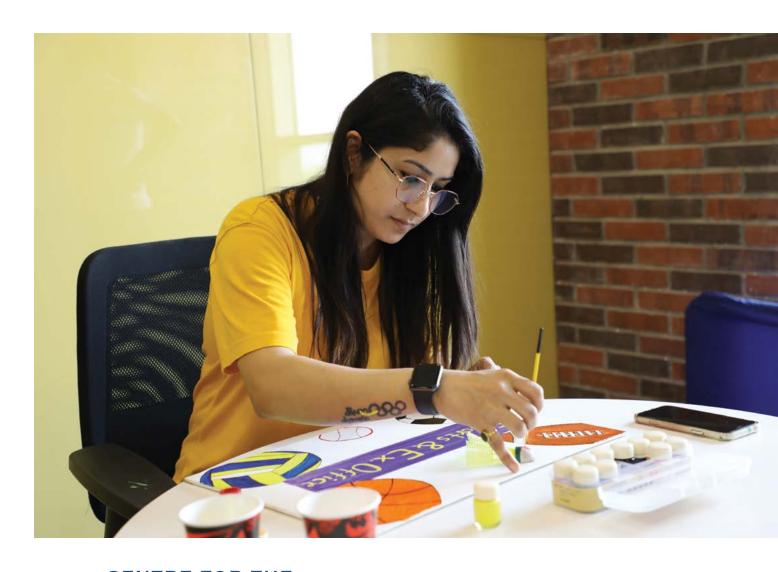
Ashoka has established Centres of Excellence that foster thought leadership, generate knowledge, and create new avenues of research in areas of social relevance. These centres aim to encourage academic and research collaborations to establish an exciting interdisciplinary environment on campus. Out of these centres, three work primarily with students and have been mentioned in the last section.

## ASHOKA CENTRE FOR CHINA STUDIES (ACCS)

The ACCS looks towards building China Studies as an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary area with an additional focus on language. It works on China-related research and collaboration — to foster a greater understanding of the country across academic, policy-making, and public audiences in India.

In collaboration with other departments, the centre launched various courses. These include *Towards Understanding Chinese Politics* by Shivshankar Menon, *Wealth and Inequality in China, 1500 to the Present* by Eloise Wright, and *Borderlands: Towards a Spatial History of Empire* by Sayantani Mukherjee. In addition, the ACCS developed research and language-focused programmes such as the China Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, the China-India Visiting Scholars Fellowship, and the Mandarin Language Teaching Programme. Over the academic year, the centre also worked towards the creation of its first minor in China Studies. The minor will include an expanded Mandarin language course and introduce new courses.

CENTRE FOR THE CREATIVE AND THE CRITICAL (CCC)

The CCC provides a forum to raise and address questions on creative practice and critical argument. It brings together writers, translators, artists, scholars, and publishers with different traditions and histories from all over the world. By doing so, the centre fosters intercultural and 'extra-disciplinary' discussions about creative practice. Such discussions are often not found in more professionalised settings, such as academic or more market-driven conferences.

In 2021-22, the centre ran a thirteen-week online course titled *Is there a Modern Literature?* The course was taught by centre director Amit Chaudhuri and conducted in partnership with The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH). This course grew from a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the University of Oxford, the CCC, and Ashoka. Other events in the academic year included the seventh symposium titled 'On Not Mentioning the Modern' and a discussion with writer and dramaturg Rustom Bharucha.

CENTRE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH (CIAR)

The Centre for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research is a unique institutional initiative which brings together archaeology and the sciences. This combination offers new perspectives to deepen the study of the Indian past. As a consequence of this cross-fertilisation, it hosts two components which support each other: field-based work along with archaeology-based courses, and laboratories supporting teaching and research.

The centre places a strong emphasis on teaching interdisciplinary courses. These range from archaeology and science to one that is locality-based (*Sonipat: Sites and Sights*). It also offers archaeological training to students as part of its teaching-cum-research projects. A large field project on the archaeological heritage of forests is underway under the aegis of the centre. Conducted in the Bandhavgarh National Park and Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh, the first results from the project are already in the press. The centre also offers fellowships, two of which are funded by an Ashoka Founder, Anupa Sahney. The fellowships focus on ancient and medieval history and archaeology. Three scholars from Kashmir, Kerala, and New Delhi have joined as inaugural fellows, and their research will add to the visibility of the CIAR across India.

The CIAR team in front of Cave 39, Ram Talaiya, in Bandhavgarh National Park

ASHOKA CENTRE FOR TRANSLATION (ACT)

The ACT was established in 2021 to foster, nurture, and foreground India's multilingual ethos. It engages with practitioners and students of translation at Ashoka and beyond through a variety of texts. These texts range from literary and political to scientific, oral, and popular domains.

Since its establishment, the centre has launched several ongoing projects such as Translating Bhakti, Ek Gaana, and a lecture series titled Undisciplining Translation. The centre worked with other departments for various events. These included a webinar with the Young India Fellowship, and the 3CS Media Fellowship with the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability. Notable achievements include Himadri Agarwal's translation of a Satya Vyas' *Banaras Talkies*. Additionally, Professor Arunava Sinha, the centre's co-director, received the 6th Vani Foundation Distinguished Translator Award.

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC DATA AND ANALYSIS (CEDA)

CEDA was established by the Department of Economics. The centre publishes original research providing insights into socio-economic issues with data-rich analysis. The content generated has been regularly featured in the media with members also publishing opinion pieces in newspapers and websites. In 2021-22, CEDA released two new data tools: Daily Food Prices and Agricultural Prices, along with a Daily Food Prices Index.

CEDA's data portal contains socio-economic, demographic, and price data. It provides concise, easy-to-understand data summaries. These are calculated via a sophisticated back-end architecture that cross-references various public datasets. The portal also provides interactive data visualisations and gives the user options to download the graphic or the underlying dataset. This makes data accessible and usable for a wide variety of audiences: researchers, students, policy advocates, teachers, journalists, and policymakers. The centre also provides valuable research and analytical experience to students through internships and research assistant positions.

Session organised by
CSBC in local villages
in Madhya Pradesh
focused on understanding
complementary feeding

In another collaboration, the centre partnered with the MacArthur Foundation to study low-carbon household choices in Indian cities. The centre further identified seven vaccine hesitancy personas among Indian Facebook users and recommended behavioural interventions to reduce hesitancy for each.

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL IMPACT AND PHILANTHROPY (CSIP)

The CSIP is India's first academic centre focused on enabling strategic and robust philanthropy for greater social impact. It aims to build a stronger social sector in India through various initiatives. This includes research and knowledge products, convening and facilitation opportunities, and leadership development programmes. The centre also nurtures emerging social impact leaders within Ashoka's alumni community through its 18-month Mother Teresa Fellowship (MTF). The ninth MTF cohort consists of eight fellows.

In 2021-22, the centre organised the second edition of Resilience Strategies for Non-profits. This is an interactive programme designed with professors from Harvard Business School for leaders of Indian non-profits to navigate the pandemic. CSIP also organised its first research conference on Philanthropy and Giving in India.

The global network WINGS published CSIP's report on Indian philanthropy as part of its Cultures of Giving series. Additionally, the centre published a comparative study on the relationship between tax incentives and philanthropic giving across 12 countries (along with the Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability). The centre also hosted two data challenges at the biannual Hack and Learn event organised by the Government Outcomes Lab at the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. The social stock exchange, whose design the centre contributed to, was notified by

CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY (3CS)

The 3CS was established in 2019. The centre seeks to provide the next generation of Ashoka-educated researchers and leaders with a comprehensive interdisciplinary education. This is specifically to address problems posed by human-induced climate change and find possible ways of addressing them. 3CS currently consists of 30 faculty members from across nine departments. In the academic year, 2021-2022, the centre funded its first 10 projects across seven broad themes. These included ecology, conservation, climate change, and sustainable communities.

The centre organised its annual conference in February, the Healing Earth Conference 2.0. The 3CS Media Fellowship was launched in the academic year to promote humane reporting on the frontlines of climate change in India. Further, building on Ashoka's partnerships, the 3CS launched 'LiveGreen@Ashoka' in collaboration with CSBC and the Ashoka Society for Sustainable Development Goals. This initiative aims to improve sustainability on campus. In May, the centre hosted its first 3CS Talks session featuring Anjali Acharya, of the World Bank, on 'Climate Resilience in the Mekong Delta'. In June, Vandana Singh, from Framingham State University, spoke on 'Breaking Paradigms: Storying Climate Change.' The centre additionally hosted its first batch of media interns who were mentored on research for communication management, climate communication, and graphic design.

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (CSBC)

Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the CSBC drives impactful behaviour change among marginalised communities. It does so through evidence-based interventions and policies. The centre's national Behavioural Insights Unit (BIU) partnered with NITI Aayog. The partnership was for a call for ideas under Mission 'Lifestyle for Environment' – a movement to drive climate action through behaviour change. BIU also developed a toolkit to scale-up evidence-based interventions and increase adherence to iron and folic acid supplementation among pregnant women. The Uttar Pradesh BIU worked towards increasing uptake and adherence to iron and folic acid supplements under the Anaemia Mukt Bharat programme.

capital markets regulator SEBI. The exchange aims to draw new pools of capital to the social sector and raise sector standards in transparency and impact reporting.

CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY (CSGS)

CSGS studies the many intersections of gender, sexuality, identity, pleasure, and inequality. In 2021-22, the centre mentored a team of YIF students in a research-based ELM project. The project attempted to fill the gap in knowledge production and dissemination concerning historical and literary global trans narratives. The CSGS hosted two virtual conferences. Delicious Desires: Food and Queerness in South Asia linked India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, on matters of food and queerness. Querying Sex: A Conference on Sex, Sexuality, and Education brought together scholars and practitioners in the field of comprehensive sexuality education.

On campus, the CSGS organised 'Queer Bollywood': a panel discussion on queerness in contemporary Bollywood cinema and a drag performance. The centre has been working towards releasing into the public domain a detailed gender and sexuality directory. This directory is an urgent resource for researchers, activists, and media outlets as they work in the field of gender and sexuality studies.

Photographs from a panel discussion titled Queer Bollywood, organised by the CSGS. Panelist pictured (right): Shohini Ghosh, Professor, AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia University
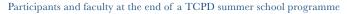
TRIVEDI CENTRE FOR POLITICAL DATA (TCPD)

TCPD was established 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. Over the academic year, the centre published 52 articles across various media. It also launched the Data Through Art project. The project leverages art to present insights from the centre's datasets – popularising the use of visual data.

During the academic year, the centre focused on releasing new data sets on Rajya Sabha, Bureaucrats of India, and Urban Local bodies – a project between TCPD and the Centre for Advance Studies in India, University of Pennsylvania.

TCPD covered five state elections this year, in Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. The centre created a data dashboard to provide a broad overview of the five state elections that were conducted at the start of this year. It also covered the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh elections. Due to the pandemic, the centre relied on state-level contacts to collect data.

Participants and faculty at the end of a TCPD summer school programme

The first-ever cohort of the YSP-Sciences held in 2022

MASTER'S AND **PhD**

MASTER'S IN LIBERAL STUDIES (MLS)

Launched in 2015, the MLS is open to students who graduate from the YIF. Accepted students engage in intensive research projects under the mentorship of faculty members. Several former MLS students have gone on to pursue PhD programmes at premier universities around the world or work as successful professionals.

The 2021-22 cohort consisted of 22 students working with a diverse range of departments. This included visual and performing arts, creative writing, international relations, philosophy, and environmental studies. Several of them chose to pursue interdisciplinary studies – sociology and anthropology with political science, English and performing arts, political science and media studies, and computer science and psychology.

YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAMME (YSP)

The Young Scholars Programme is a unique summer pre-college programme that introduces outstanding high school students to the idea of a liberal arts and sciences education. The five-day course exposes students to multiple disciplines through interactive learning. Since its launch in 2016, over 1,800 students have attended the YSP. In the academic year 2021-22, the YSP successfully hosted the third online edition enrolling 259 students from five countries, 137 schools, and 42 cities.

In 2022, the first YSP-Sciences was launched to introduce innovative science education. Held on campus, students travelled from across the country and were in residence for a week. Courses included computer science, biology, physics, and chemistry with a wide range of topics, laboratory sessions, and hands-on experiments. The programme ended with a closing ceremony attended by 18 science faculty, parents, and the young students.
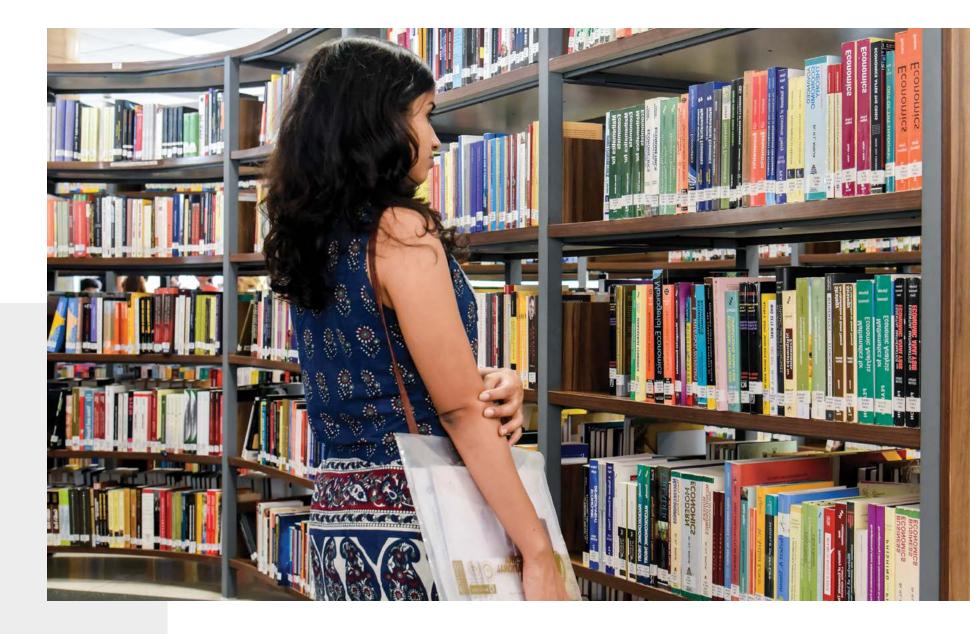
MA (ECONOMICS)

The master's degree in economics provides students with the opportunity to obtain training in modern economics from highly qualified academics in the field. The academic approach brings together cutting-edge economic theory and data analysis. Eight mandatory courses in the first year provide rigorous training for the research-focused and specialised elective courses in the second. Students also have the option of writing a master's thesis in their second year.

The fourth cohort comprising 20 students graduated in May 2022. Students who previously graduated have been 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.

MA (ENGLISH)

The master's degree in English offers an intellectually rigorous immersion in the study of literature, framed by Ashoka's distinctive liberal arts vision. Students enrol in core and elective graduate-level seminars, with the option of taking a course in another discipline. Their coursework culminates in a research thesis that represents the capstone experience of a specialisation in any one of the seven concentrations unique to Ashoka. This includes south Asian literature, sexuality and gender studies, and creative writing. After an intensive admissions process, 15 students were admitted to the 2022-24 cohort. This includes two students who completed an advanced major in English at Ashoka as undergraduate students.

PHD PROGRAMME

Ashoka offers PhD programmes in various disciplines and in multidisciplinary areas. In 2021-22, the University hosted 132 PhD scholars in nine departments. At Ashoka, PhD scholars are encouraged to actively engage in teaching during their degree programme to develop their teaching skills. Financial assistance is offered to PhD scholars for presenting their research ideas and findings.

During the academic year, nine PhD scholars presented their research at various international conferences. The scholars come from varied socio-economic and educational backgrounds. Fifty-one per cent of the PhD students are women.

FACULTY
RESEARCH

Ashoka supports the pursuit of rigorous and collaborative research with a special focus on interdisciplinary areas. This enables faculty to publish papers, author books, attend conferences, and represent the University at various fora. Many faculty members are also recipients of prestigious grants, fellowships, and awards. The academic year 2021-22 witnessed a 20 per cent increase in the total number of publications in reputed journals. Some of these research papers and books are listed below.

In the Department of Humanities, Aparna Vaidik (History) published her book, *Waiting for Swaraj*, which narrates what it meant to be a revolutionary in British India in the 1920s. Madhavi Menon (English) published her latest book *The Law of Desire: Rulings on Sex and Sexuality in India*. Amit Chaudhuri's (Creative Writing) book *Finding the Raga: An Improvisation to Indian Music* won the biography prize in the James Tait Black prizes. Jyotirmoy Talkudar (CWC) in his recent book *Will You Wait For Me All Dressed Up?*, translated 70 poems, originally written by Swapnali Mahanta in Assamese, into English.

Rita Kothari (English) published a book chapter titled 'Cartographies of Sindh: religion, region, language' in *The Routledge Handbook of Refugees in India*. Sramana Majumdar (Psychology) published her research *"You Don't Know Me so Don't Try to Judge Me": Gender and Identity Performance on Social Media Among Young Indian Users* in *Frontiers of Psychology*. Eric Synder (Philosophy) co-authored a paper titled 'Computability, Notation, and de re Knowledge of Numbers in Philosophies (MDPI)'. Pallavi Raghavan (International Relations) has

published insightful work titled 'The Limits of Decolonisation in India's International Thought and Practice: An Introduction' in the *International History Review*.

In the Department of Economics, Ashwini Deshpande published a book chapter titled 'The Origins and Effects of Affirmative Action Policies in India' in *Making Meritocracy: Lessons from China and India, from Antiquity to the Present*. Bharat Ramaswamy published a paper titled 'International risk sharing for food staples' in the *Journal of Development Economics*. Kanika Mahajan co-authored the paper 'The gendered effects of droughts: Production shocks and labor response in agriculture' which was published in *Labour Economics*.

In the sciences department, Shubhasis Haldar (Biology) published an impactful paper on 'Direct observation of chaperone-modulated talin mechanics with single-molecule resolution' in *Nature Communication Biology*. Shivani Krishna (Biology) and Somendra Bhattacharjee (Physics) published a study titled 'Ordering and topological defects in social wasps' nests' in *Nature Scientific Reports*.

Anirban Mondal (Computer Science) published several papers throughout the year, including 'Air Quality Data Collection in Hyderabad Using Low-Cost Sensors: Initial Experiences', and 'Visualizing Spatio-temporal Variation of Ambient Air Pollution in Four Small Towns in India'. In the Department of Mathematics, Rajendra Bhatia published a paper titled 'Eigenvalues and diagonal elements' in the *Indian Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics*.

FACULTY GRANTS (2021-22)

Alok Bhattacharya (Biology) received a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research

Anisha Sharma (Economics) was awarded a grant from the Private Enterprise Development in Low-Income Countries (CEPR)

Anurag Agrawal (Biology) received grants from Simons Foundation & Wellcome Epidemic Preparedness

Aparna Vaidik (History) was awarded a grant from Keele University

Ashwini Deshpande (Economics) received a grant from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Balaji Chattopadhyay (Biology) was awarded a Core Research Grant from the Science and Engineering Research Board

Bann Seng Tan (Political Science & International Relations) received the Centennial Center Research Grant from American Political Science Association

Basudeb Maji (Biology) was awarded a Start-up Research Grant from the Science and Engineering Research Board

Deepak Asthana (Chemistry) received a research grant from the Royal Society of Chemistry

Divya Karnad (Environmental Studies) was awarded grants from Stanford University & Bertarelli Foundation

Gautam I Menon (Biology & Physics) received a research grant from the Department of Biotechnology under the Biotechnology Research & Development Scheme

Guhan Venkat (Mathematics) was awarded the INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship by the Department of Science & Technology

Kasturi Mitra (Biology) received the Senior Fellowship from DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance

Kasturi Pal (Biology) was awarded a research grant from the Department of Biotechnology

Krishna Malnattur (Biology & Psychology) received the Ramalingaswami Re-Entry Fellowship

LS Shashidhara (Biology) was awarded grants from the Department of Biotechnology & Science and Engineering Research Board

Madhavi Menon (English) received a grant from the University of Witwatersrand

Mahavir Jhawar (Computer Science) was awarded grants from the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (DRDO) & Joint Cipher Bureau (DRDO)

Munmun Ghosh (Chemistry) received the Start-up Research Grant from the Science and Engineering Research Board
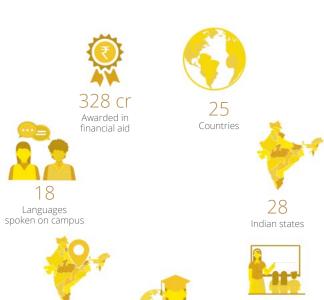
Sabeeha Hasnain (Biology & Physics) was awarded the National Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the Science and Engineering Research Board
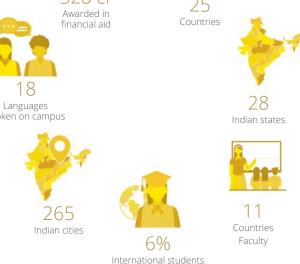
Sabyasachi Das (Economics) received a research grant from Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (CEPR)

Sougata Roy (Biology) was awarded grants from the Department of Biotechnology & Ministry of Earth Sciences

Swagata Bhattacharjee (Economics) received a grant from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne
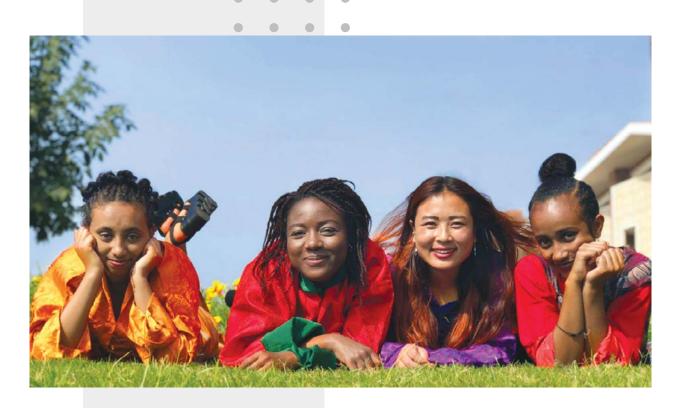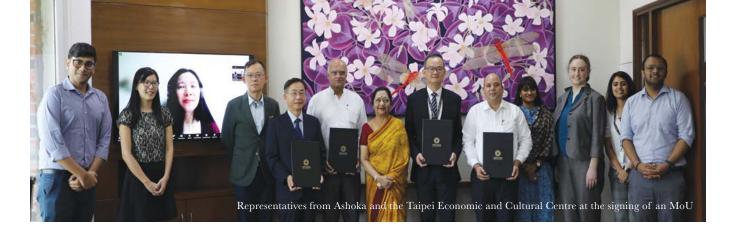
Representatives from Ashoka and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre at the signing of an MoU

328 cr
Awarded in financial aid

25
Countries

18
Languages spoken on campus

28
Indian states

265
Indian cities

6%
International students

11
Countries Faculty

INCLUSION
AND DIVERSITY

Ashoka is committed to making high-quality education accessible to deserving students, irrespective of their socio-economic backgrounds. In the last 11 years, Ashoka has provided need-based financial aid of Rs 328 crore (USD 41.2 million) to 3,700 students – making it India's largest scholarship programme in higher education.

Apart from a vibrant student body, the University strives to continually improve the representation of women in senior academic roles and achieve gender balance at the workplace. Women constitute 50 per cent of the staff, 43 per cent of the faculty, and 63 per cent of Ashoka's senior leadership.

Engaging with so many women has made me aware of issues that they face, and what we men take for granted. We can also have nuanced conversations about social issues that wouldn't have been possible on a male-majority campus.

KANAN GUPTA
UG 2019

INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERSHIPS

Academic programmes at Ashoka are delivered in collaboration with leading institutions. 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 and semester abroad programmes with access to international faculty. All international partnerships are led by the Office of Global Education and Strategic Partnerships (GESP).

Currently, Ashoka has over 30 global partnerships. The University of Pennsylvania, King's College London, Sciences Po, Trinity College-Dublin, UC Berkeley, and Yale University have all entered into partnerships with Ashoka. Other institutions include the University of Sheffield, University of Cambridge, HEC Paris, Lehigh University, Duke University, University of British Columbia, Connecticut College, and Emory University.

The University signed several additional Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with international universities. The academic year 2021-22 witnessed significant expansion in Europe with MOUs being signed with University of Geneva, Maastricht College, Linnaeus University, and the University of Zurich. Ashoka also extended partnerships to South-East Asia – signing agreements with National University of Singapore and National Taiwan University. In addition, Biology research-focused agreements have been signed with State University of New York at Buffalo and John Hopkins University.

SPORTS

The Sports and Exercise Office aims to promote a healthy sporting spirit within the University, in addition to inspiring and nurturing talent. For this, the office reaches out to every member of the Ashoka community through specially designed activities and events. In 2021-22, various training sessions were organised virtually. When the campus reopened in March, in-person coaching and tournaments across 14 disciplines resumed. International Yoga Day and International Olympics Day were celebrated on campus. The latter was held in partnership with Special Olympics Bharat (Haryana Chapter).

STUDENT**LIFE**

Students at Ashoka have access to a wide variety of extracurricular activities that are enjoyable and intellectually engaging. In 2021-22, student life thrived through numerous events that revolved around the themes of community service, diversity, sustainability, hygiene, and well-being.

Over 300 events including 50 in-person activities were curated by the 39 clubs and societies during the year. The University organised four inter-university events for the Ashoka community to connect with and compete with the student community from across the world. This included the Ashoka Literature Festival.

Additionally, Residence Assistants organised over 220 active programming efforts with their community including 80 in-person events. This was apart from regular one-on-one office hours and periodic meetings. A 'Dorm Olympics' event was also organised on campus after the University reopened in March to celebrate the Ashoka ethos.

THE CHIEF MINISTER'S GOOD GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATES (CMGGA)

Launched in January 2016, the CMGGA programme is a collaboration between Ashoka and the Government of Haryana. The programme engages young professionals (called Associates) to promote transparency, efficiency, and citizen-centric service delivery across different departments in Haryana.
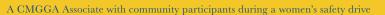
For a period of approximately 12 months, the sixth cohort of 24 Associates were posted across the 22 districts to work closely with the Chief Minister's Office and district administration. These Associates have diverse educational backgrounds, ranging from law, business studies, economics, and public health. The sixth cohort comprised six women and 18 men with an average age of 24 years; 80 per cent of the cohort previously worked in the development sector with an average work experience of over 18 months.

The academic year 2021-22 witnessed the success of many associate-driven projects within the programme. For instance, in the Mukhya Mantri Antyodaya Parivar Utthan Yojna, Associates assisted the administration in increasing loan sanctions and the disbursal of over 10,000 loans. They were instrumental in training and onboarding over 330 counselling desk members. Similarly, in the welfare schemes delivery, Associates made 12 recommendations under four themes that were presented to the chief minister. Another set of recommendations was launched by the chief minister through a report titled 'Strengthening Welfare Delivery in Haryana - Citizen Feedback and recommendations on Schemes'.

In another project, Saksham Education, the programme continued to focus on improving the grade-level competency of government school students. In a project focussing on preschool education to implement the National Education Policy, Associates facilitated over 700 training sessions to cover more than 24,000 Anganwadi Workers in Haryana — further strengthening the Samarth Haryana initiative across the state. Under the eOffice project, an electronic file processing system has been implemented across all department offices at the state and district headquarters.

Associates also contributed greatly towards innovating district initiatives to tackle the local problems arising in their district. To name just two, Project Rudhir was launched in Rohtak to curb anaemia cases in women and children, and in Ambala, a career counselling project provided career guidance to school children.

The results showcase the evolution of potential thought leaders emerging naturally through the programme. Associates from previous cohorts have been working in various streams of social spaces such as consulting firms and NGOs. Some are pursuing public policy in higher education while others are preparing for the civil services — all leading to an improvement in sustainable development goals and creating a positive impact.

A CMGGA Associate with community participants during a women's safety drive

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. Its initial focus was to preserve primary source material for the study of modern and contemporary Indian history.

In the academic year 2021-22, the Archives achieved the distinction of adding valuable collections of the private papers of eminent individuals and academics. This now includes material from Hari Dang (educationist and mountaineer), Raza Tehsin (wildlife conservationist), DK Lahiri Choudhury (ecologist and elephant expert), SPK Gupta (author and journalist), Kailash Sankhala (wildlife conservationist and tiger expert), and Prosenjit Das Gupta (naturalist scholar and writer). The Archives also hold a rare book collection of anthologies by Balkrishna Sharma 'Naveen' (freedom fighter and poet). Furthermore, a number of instalments of papers were added to the collections of Nandita Haksar, Kiran Nagarkar, Girish Karnad, Gopalkrishna Gandhi, and MK Ranjitsinh. An e-archive of the newsletter of WWF India was also created during this period.
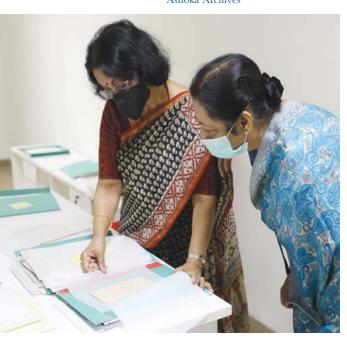
Preparation of catalogues and metadata of archival collections continued unabated through the pandemic. The catalogues have been uploaded on the website of the University for the benefit of researchers. In an attempt to reach out to the scholarly community at large, the Archives undertook a project to develop and design an exclusive website, to be launched soon. Scholars will be able to access all collections online with the help of a search engine and metadata linked to the collections.

In April 2022, the Archives relocated to a new space. A reading room and a repository for storing archival collections have been set up — where rare documents and photos can be showcased. A pilot project for digitising the archival collections has also commenced, along with the digitisation of the valuable collection of the former president, Dr S Radhakrishnan.

Above: Prof. Kelvin Everest, Emeritus AC Bradley and Professor of Modern Literature at the University of Liverpool, viewing his documents hosted at the Archives

Below: Vice-Chancellor Malabika Sarkar on a visit to the Archives, with Deepa Bhatnagar, Director, Ashoka Archives

ASHOKA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AAA)

The AAA was instated in 2015 with 449 alumni from the first three batches of the Young India Fellowship. Over the last six years, the association has expanded to become a body of 2,722 members that are spread over 36 countries and across 175 career paths. The AAA serves as a platform for the alumni to engage with each other, the University, and the world at large.

The AAA's digital (the Alumni Portal) and social (local chapters) infrastructure enables 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.

CAMPUS

Ashoka's 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. The firm reflects one of Ashoka's core values in the campus design – combining Indian aesthetics with international best practices. Examples can be seen in elements

unique to the University, such as the stone *jaali* (screen) combined with a red brick façade. They have designed for Columbia University, University of Pittsburgh, New York University, and ISB Mohali, amongst others.

Ashoka laid the foundation stone for its new 27-acre campus in 2021. The campus will incorporate sustainable features in keeping with Ashoka's efforts to achieve net-zero emissions – including solar roofs, sewage treatment plants, water treatment plants, and a rainwater harvesting system.

Right: Common spaces across campus provide collaborative learning and recreational spaces for students and can meet their evolving needs. Flexible design offers a choice of open and enclosed areas for group activities as well as quiet individual study

RIGHT PAGE
Above: The central lawns, besides providing vast areas of green relief, host outdoor sporting events, including basketball, football, volleyball, and tennis

Below: A student at the Shanghvi Library, established in 2014

GOVER**NANCE**

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 number and competencies as the University expands its capacity and operations.

Deepak Parekh (Ashoka Founder & Chairman, HDFC) and Ziaa Lalkaka (CEO, HT Parekh Foundation) in conversation with Eshwara Venkatesam (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Development, Placements & Alumni Relations) and Vinay Sitapati (Assistant Professor of Political Science & Legal Studies)

UNIVERSITY TRENDS & METRICS

METRICS	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
STUDENTS						
Undergraduate						
Number of enrolled students	686	1,039	1,306	1,613	1,861	1,919
Diversity						
• Percentage of women	56%	54%	56%	55%	57%	58%
• Percentage of students from non-metro cities[1]	31%	32%	35%	35%	30%	36%
• Percentage of international students	5%	5%	6%	7%	6%	6%
Postgraduate						
Number of enrolled students	219	323	374	416	661	778
Diversity						
• Percentage of women	64%	59%	53%	56%	59%	58%
• Percentage of students from non-metro cities[1]	53%	48%	45%	53%	48%	46%
FINANCIAL AID						
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (UG)	44%	46%	47%	48%	47%	48%
Percentage of students receiving financial aid (PG)[2]	100%	96%	95%	94%	53%	58%
Cumulative amount of aid (Rs cr)	58	87	130	190	250	328
ALUMNI						
Number of alumni	640	976	1,474	2,107	2,808	4,056
• Percentage in India	91%	91%	88%	89%	95%	95%
• Percentage in other countries	9%	9%	12%	11%	5%	6%
PLACEMENTS						
Number of recruiters who hired	75	120	132	107	140	126
Percentage of students placed[3]	100%	100%	98%	87%	100%	100%
ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH						
Number of applications[4]	6,603	7,139	6,433	7,884	7,870	7,999
Number of institution touch-points[5]	490	610	497	915	1,216	954
• India	465	546	497	915	1,215	945
• International	25	64	0	0	1	9

METRICS	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
FACULTY						
Undergraduate						
Number of faculty	83	105	146	212	212	268
• Full-time faculty	47	69	92	115	115	152
• Visiting faculty	36	36	54	97	97	116
Percentage of women	35%	35%	39%	41%	41%	43%
Student to faculty ratio[6]	8:1	10:1	9:1	7:1	7:1	7:1
YIF						
Number of faculty	33	44	41	48	48	37
• Full-time faculty	9	11	13	9	9	8
• Visiting faculty	24	33	28	39	39	29
Percentage of women	38%	26%	25%	15%	15%	19%
Student to faculty ratio[6]	6:1	6:1	7:1	6:1	6:1	5:1
STAFF						
Number of employees	150	172	197	249	249	307
Percentage of women	45%	49%	45%	52%	52%	49%
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS						
Number of partnerships	14	17	20	20	20	30
Countries of partner institutions	6	7	7	7	7	14
Number of partners from top 200 institutions[7]	7	8	8	8	8	16
INFRASTRUCTURE						
Total constructed area (in '000 sq ft)[8]	690	808	808	847	989	1,204
Student housing capacity[9]	1,469	2,158	2,158	2,250	2,548	2,548
FUNDRAISING						
Total committments raised (Rs cr)	824	942	1,141	1,432	1,541	1,789
Commitments raised during the year (Rs cr)	195	118	199	291	109	248
Number of Founders	93	107	123	136	155	165
Number of donors & annual Fund Contributors	8	12	22	29	37	43

NOTES:
The Ashoka campus in Sonepat 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] The percentage of PG students receiving financial aid has dropped due to discontinuation of the Merit Scholarship for the YIF programme
[3] This includes all students (UG & PG) who opted for placement services
[4] Includes applications for the UG programme and YIF

NOTES:
[5] Both online and offline engagements (webinars, workshops, presentations, online counselling sessions, seminars, and stalls)
[6] Not calculated according to the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) metric
[7] Calculated according to QS rankings
[8] The permissible areas have been calculated as per Floor Space Index (FSI) allowed by Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA)
[9] Number of students

Rudrangshu Mukherjee
Chancellor

Malabika Sarkar
Vice-Chancellor

Eshwara Venkatesam
*Pro Vice-Chancellor
(Development, Placements &
Alumni Relations)*

Rajesh Garodia
*Pro Vice-Chancellor
(Administration & Finance)*

Amita Baviskar
Dean of Faculty

Aniha Brar
*Dean, Young India Fellowship &
Vice-Chancellor's Office*

Anurag Agarwal
Dean, Biosciences & Health Reasearch

Bharat Ramaswami
Dean of Academic Affairs

Deboshruti Roychowdhury
Dean of Student Affairs

Gautam Menon
Dean of Research

Vanita Shastri
*Dean, Global Education &
Strategic Programmes*

Ali Imran
Vice President, External Engagement

Bhaskar Mishra
Vice President, Operations

Sachin Sharma
Registrar & Controller of Examinations

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.

94
95

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 while simultaneously investing in building administrative capabilities to accelerate growth. The following pages highlight the names of Ashoka's leadership team.

Anirban Chakraborty
Assistant Vice President, Research & Academic Development

Gitanjali Gandhiok
Assistant Vice President, Development Office

Priyanka Chandhok
Assistant Vice President, Career Development Office

Tom Raja Rosenhagen
Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

Ambica Chaturvedi
Senior Director, Human Resources

Anu Batra
Senior Director, Information Technology

Neena Jain Goel
Senior Director, Career Development Office

Suman Kaul
Senior Director, Development Office

Urmi Singh
Senior Director, Career Development Office

Vikram Bawa
Senior Director, Undergraduate Outreach

Vineet Sabharwal
Senior Director, UG Admissions & Financial Aid

AK Ranjit
Director, Media Lab

Akshay Madhavan
Director, AshokaX

Anu Singh
Director, Alumni and Parents Office

BP Prakash
Director, Library Services

Deepa Bhatnagar
Director, Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India

Harini Narayanan
Director, Office of Academic Affairs

Jayesh Vijay Bhave
Director, CMGGA

Karan Bhola
Director, Young India Fellowship

Maitree Dasgupta
Director, Global Education & Strategic Programmes

Mani Lamba
Director, PR & Communications

Manish Gupta
Director, Finance & Accounts

Mercia Prince
Director, Office of Admissions

Mona Singh
Director, Development Office

Pooja Manaktala
Director, Administration and Service Excellence

Reena Gupta
Director, Office of Learning Support

Ambassador Shivshankar Menon
Chair, Centre for China Studies

Arvinder Grover
Director, Ashoka Centre for Well-Being

Ashwini Deshpande
Director, Centre for Economic Data & Analysis

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

Priyank Narayan
Director, Info Edge Centre for Entrepreneurship

Sharon Marie Barnhardt
Research Director, Centre for Social & Behaviour Change

Swati Shresth
Research Director, Centre for Social Impact & Philanthropy

Vikas Sahni
Director, AI for Social Good

GOVERNING BODY

Rudrangshu Mukherjee
(Chairperson)

MEMBERS & PERMANENT INVITEES (PI)

Amit Chandra	Madhu Chandak (PI)	Sanjeev Bikhchandani (PI)
Ashish Dhawan	Malabika Sarkar	Secretary to Government, Haryana, Education Department
Deep Kalra	Pramath Raj Sinha	
Karishma Shanghvi (PI)	Puneet Dalmia	Siddharth Yog

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Malabika Sarkar
(Chairperson)

MEMBERS & PERMANENT INVITEES (PI)

Aniha Brar (PI)	LS Shashidhara	Upinder Singh
Ashish Dhawan	Pramath Raj Sinha (PI)	Vaiju Naravane
Bharat Ramaswami	Rahul Mookerjee	Vanita Shastri
Deboshruti Roychowdhury (PI)	Rajesh Garodia	Ziaa Lalkaka
Gautam Menon	Secretary to Government, Haryana, Education Department	

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Malabika Sarkar
(Chairperson)

MEMBERS

Alok Bhattacharya	LS Shashidhara	Somendra Mohan Bhattacharjee
Amin Ahmad Nizami	Matthew Baxter	Simantini Ghosh
Aniha Brar	Piyali Banerjee	Subhashis Banerjee
Aparna Chaudhuri	Raja Rosenhagen	Suraj Shekhar
Bharat Ramaswami	Rajendra Bhatia	Swargajyoti Gohain
Jonathan Gil Harris	Ratul Lahkar	Upinder Singh
Kathryn Collins Hardy	Sanjukta Datta	Vanita Shastri
Kranti Saran	Shubhasis Haldar	Vinay Sitapati

FACULTY (YIF)

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Debayan Gupta
Deepak Mehta
Gilles Verniers
Jonathan Gil Harris
Madhavi Menon
Malabika Sarkar
Mekhala Krishnamurthy
Rudrangshu Mukherjee

Santosh Venkatesh
Shahid Jameel
Srikant Sastri
Stephanie Balme
Surinder Singh Jodhka
Urvashi Butalia

VISITING FACULTY

AK Shivakumar
Ananth Padmanabhan
Anirban Datta
Anuj Bhuwania
Anunaya Chaubey
Arun Kumar Singh
Aseem Shrivastava
Bhismadev Chakrabarti
Debal Deb
Dev Tayde
Dilip Simeon
Dwight Jaggard
KP Krishnan
Kenwyn Smith
Meenu Gaur
Narendra Jadhav
Neilesh Bose
Omkar Goswami
Pooja Haldea
Pramath Raj Sinha
Purushottam Agrawal
Ranjan Banerjee
Ritwik Agrawal
Sanjay Kathuria

FACULTY (UG, MA & PHD)

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Abhinash Borah
Abir Bashir Bazaz
Aditi Chaturvedi
Aditi Saraf
Aditi Sriram
Alexander Bruce Watson
Alexander Robert Phillips
Alexandra Cassatt Verini
Alok Bhattacharya
Amin Ahmad Nizami
Amit Prakash Chaudhuri
Amita Baviskar
Ananya Sharma
Aniket Pankaj Aga
Anirban Mondal
Anisha Sharma
Anup Padmanabhan
Anuradha Saha
Aparajita Dasgupta
Aparna Chaudhuri
Aparna Vaidik
Arghya Bhattacharya
Arunava Sinha
Aryya Ghosh

Ashwini Deshpande
Avantika Bhatia
Ayush Pant
Balaji Chattopadhyay
Bann Seng Tan
Basudeb Maji
Bhanu Gupta
Bharat Ramaswami
Bhaskar Dutta
Bhrigupati Singh
Bikram Phookun
Bipasha Maity
Bishnu Prasad Biswal
Biswajit Banerjee
Clancy Martin
Conjeeveram Srirangachari Ranjan
Daniel Benjamin Weltman
Debayan Gupta
Deepak Asthana
Deepak Mehta
Dipankar Bhattacharya
Divya Karnad
Durba Chattaraj
Eloise Wright
Eric Paul Snyder
Garima Mishra
Gautam Iqbal Menon
Geetanjali Chanda
Gilles Verniers
Guhan Venkat
Hemanshu Kumar
Imroze Khan
Janice Erica Pariat
Johannes Hendrikus Burgers
Jonathan Gil Harris
Kanika Mahajan
Kasturi Mitra
Kasturi Pal
Kathleen Rachel Harbin
Kathryn Collins Hardy
Kaveri Rajaraman

Kranti Saran
Krishna Maddaly
Krishna Venkata Melnattur
Krittika Bhattacharjee
Kumarjit Saha
L S Shashidhara
Lalit Contractor
Madhavi Latha Kari
Madhavi Menon
Mahabir Prasad Jhanwar
Mahesh Rangarajan
Malabika Sarkar
Mali Annika Skotheim
Malvika Maheshwari
Mandakini Dubey
Manu Awasthi
Matthew Hamilton Baxter
Maya Mirchandani
Maya Saran
Meghna Agarwala
Mekhala Krishnamurthy
Mihir Bhattacharya
Mitul Baruah
Mohammad Amir Ahmad Khan
Mukul Sharma
Munmun Ghosh
Naresh Keerti
Navtej Singh Johar
Nayan Ranjan Chanda
Nayanjot Kaur Lahiri
Neelanjan Sircar
Pallavi Raghavan
Piyali Banerjee
Pramoda Kumar
Pratyay Nath
Pritam Ghosh
Pubali Chakraborty
Pulapre Balakrishnan
Quintijn Benjamin Kat
Rahul Raagvindra Babu Nath
Rajendra Bhatia
Rakhi Peswani

Rama Sundari Akondy
Rashmi Nair
Ratul Lahkar
Ravindran S
Rita Kothari
Rudrangshu Mukherjee
Sabyasachi Bhattacharya
Sabyasachi Das
Saikat Majumdar
Sandipto Dasgupta
Sanjukta Datta
Sayantani Mukherjee
Sharif M Youssef
Sharon Elizabeth Berry
Shivani
Shubhasis Haldar
Simantini Ghosh
Sneha Bakshi
Somendra Mohan Bhattacharjee
Sougata Roy
Soumyottam Chatterjee
Sourav Ghosh
Sraman Mukherjee
Sramana Majumdar
Srijita Ghosh
Srinath Raghavan
Subhashis Banerjee
Subhasree Chakravarty
Subrata Kumar Ritadhi
Sumana Roy Ghosh
Sunil Khilnani
Suraj Shekhar
Suratna Das
Susmita Saha
Swagata Bhattacharjee
Swargajyoti Gohain
Tatyana Aleksandrovna Kostochka
Thomas Michael Mccarthy
Thomas Scott Dixon Jr.
Tisha Srivastav

Tom Raja Rosenhagen
Upinder Singh
Vaijayanti Vaiju Naravane
Vinay Sitapati
Vivek Venkitaraman Narayan

VISITING FACULTY

Achintya Prahlad
Ainee A. Farooqui
Akshay Khanna
Amit Kumar Goyal
Amit Mahanti
Amrendra Pratap Singh
Amrith Lal B
Anirudh Nair
Ankit Pandey
Ankur Sarin
Annette Theresa Taylor
Anni Kumari
Anshika Varma
Anshu Ogra
Anshu Singh
Anurupa Roy
Apoorva Bhandari
Arashdeep Singh
Arijit Sengupta
Arpan Banerjee
Arpita Das
Arti Maria
Benedicte Christine Marie Faivre Tavignot
Birender Yadav
Deepak Castelino
Deepali Singh
Deepti Mulgund
Dhruv Raina
Dimitry Shevchenko
Dinesh Khanna
Divya Krishnan
Divya Vasudev
Dorothee Gieux

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