

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
SOCIAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATION FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS (SWASS)
(2017-2018)

SWASS is a general body formed by staff and students of department of Social Work, Loyola College. Every year a Faculty member is elected as the President of this general body along with four student representatives in each Shift respectively. Thereby forming a collective association representative body. This Association is led under the guidance of SWASS Chairman Dr. G. Gladston Xavier.

SWASS INAUGURATION 2017-2018

The inauguration of Social Workers' Association for Staff and Students (SWASS) was held on 1st August, 2017, in the Department of Social Work. The program was started with a prayer song by the Shift I students, and welcome address by Dr. Gladston Xavier, Head of the department. This was followed by lighting the lamp by the chief guest, Mr. Sadish Babu N. Chief General Manager (HR) of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd., along with the Presidents of SWASS and office bearers. The chief guest was honored with a memento on behalf of the department of Social Work and SWASS. This was followed by Briefing on SWASS by Vice president, Shift-I of SWASS and Investiture ceremony.

The chief guest, Mr. Sadish Babu addressed the gathering and spoke about five main points to Never regret for the lost opportunities and make use of the present moment to correct the past mistakes; to realize one's potentials and start doing justice to the potentials; To strive for excellence in the field; To Add quality in everything one does, while Contribute to the society; and to identify and fulfill one's ambition.

This was followed by the Oath taking ceremony by all the SWASS members, and presentation of future plans of SWASS by SWASS Secretary, Shift II. The Inaugural ceremony was concluded by Vote of thanks proposed by Coordinator of the Department, Dr. D. John Paul.

KAILSH SATYARTI – BHARAT YATRA

Department of social work, Loyola College hosted the Bharat Yatra - People's Convention with Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi, Loyola College, Nungambakkam, on 13th September 2017.

The convention started at 4:30 Pm with the sharing personal experiences by children of Karunalaya on street children's rights. This was followed by the Arrival of Mr. Kailash Satyarthi. He was welcomed with college song and welcome speech. This was followed by presenting a summary of Kailash Satyarti's yatra in the last 35 days. Finally Mr Kailash Satyarti came to the stage and addressed the gathering. He shared about his experiences and struggles he has witnessed through various cases of child Abuse.

This was followed by taking of the pledge against Child trafficking, tolerance and sexual abuse. This was followed by the presentation of memento to the guests and vote of thanks by HOD of the department Dr. G. Gladston.

CHILD FEST-2017

Child fest is a festive event organized by SWASS for the underprivileged children belongs to the age group 5 to 15 years. The child fest 2017, taking in a broader outlook hosted "The state level Launch of Campaign against child sexual Abuse and child fest" on 23rd Sept, 2017 in collaboration with Loyola Knowledge Hub for Excellence in child protection (KHEChP) and World Vision.

The Chief Guest of the event was Mrs. Nirmala IAS (Retd) chairperson Tamil Nadu commission for protection of child rights. Various resource persons talked about the child rights and its protection. This was followed by Activities and competitions hosted for students of various schools, Homes and colleges.

Nearly 300 students, 200 college students and 50 NGO's were participated in the child fest. The school students participated in various events like skit, Déjà va, Rangoli, Drawing and painting and Face painting while the college students took part in Street theatre, mime, photography and Short film. The programme was concluded at 5.30pm.

DEPARTMENT FEST 2017- EXPLORIA '17

EXPLORIA '17 was held on 15th December 2017 in partnership with AATRAL (federation of atrocities against women, Tamil Nadu). The main theme of the event was Gender Equity "An inclusive Process: A Social Work Perspective".



The program started at 9.30am; with Prayer song and Addressing the gathering by HOD Dr, G. Gladston. The chief guests of the program were Rev.Fr.Jose and Rev.J.Jacquelin jothi; who talked about the sexual abuse faced by the Dalit women and the essence of the women empowerment.

Exploria 2017 hosted events including Street theatre, Mime, Folk dance, Mannequin challenge, Ad zap, Newsroom presentation, Photography, Face painting, Collage making, Creative writing, Quiz and Debate. Judged by Mr. T. Milton Samsunder, Ms. Sudha, Mr.Nirmal Lawrence, Mr. Magi, Mrs. Rathna, Prof. Francis, Prof. Milton, Dr. Alica Ligorina, Prof. Ashwin, and Prof. Selvarani.



The overall Trophy was won by the college- Madras school of social work (MSW). The fest ended with vote of thanks by Vice-President Shift I.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2018

National conference 2018 was organized by the social work department of Loyola College on 12th and 13th February 2018, on the theme “social work response to contemporary social issues- An insight”.

Ms. Teesta Setelvad was the key note speaker of the inauguration ceremony. She highlighted on how we cannot achieve political equity when there is a lack of social and economic equity in our country. She also emphasized on how we have to gain collective understanding about our history and civilization.



The first session was on Honor Killing by Mr.Kathir – Executive Director Evidence Human Rights Activist. He shared various honour killing cases and judgments given for it. He highlighted how people even today respect caste more than god; and Judgment and justice is based on a peoples colour, place caste and influence. He pointed out that in order to stop honour killing changes have to be made on judiciary level, that the justification of caste based murders are fueled by the people silence of people on these social issues.

The second session was on Welfare state and its relevance in present Indian scenario: Dr.Suresh. – General Secretary of PUCL.He mainly focused on how the underprivileged are deprived of their rights and how our rights to question our own identity is being shaped by political forces. He also spoke on our Constitutional Right and Directive principles.

The third session was on environmental by Dr. SP Udaya Kumar – writer and Anti-Nuclear activist from Tamil Nadu. He focused on Environmental, racism,

degradation and facism. He emphasized the importance of public hearing in terms of decision making, and the significance of going hand in hand with our natural environment.

The fourth session was on Gender Justice by Dr.Claudia . She is the Head of Department of Social Work COBURD University of Applied Science, Germany. Her session mainly highlighted on the History of Human Rights, the core of Human Rights, transgender and Intersexual Rights.

Mr.T A Mathew Gunaseelan, the General Manager of Indo National Limited, then spoke on the topic “Trade Union, Retrenchment and Industrial Relations in the era of Globalization”. He spoke about the various factors which affects the Industrial Relations and explained the causes and effects of the retrenchment with case studies. He threw light on the concept of artificial intelligence which may soon undertake all sectors, and the upcoming trend of disruptive environment in every field.

MR. P.B. Prince Gajendrababu, the educationist spoke next on the topic “Child Friendly Education System”. He brought out that education for NEET/SLET is not an important factor and highlighted how education has become a competition in today’s times. He insisted that education through mother tongue enables the students to think creatively. He also quoted that Jyothiba Phule, Savithriba Phule, were the first persons to insist on the importance of common education system and education for the girl child. He also spoke about the law of Negation.

MR. Purna Chander, the assistant manager of Human Capital DP world, Cochin, spoke on the topic “Increasing Suicides among Youth in India”. The suicide among youth in India is high especially among women. The age group of youth from 15 to 29 are widely prone to suicidal tendency. He pointed out that nowadays youngsters fail to face challenges in work place as well as in their life, and the need for media to stop glorifying suicide. Andended the speech by offering human solutions to reduce suicides such as a national helpline and the suggestion to institute Counsellors in every setting and institutions.

MR. Sridhar Radhakrishnan, the Programme Director at THANAL, that works on Environmental health and ethics was the next speaker. He stated that 4 lakh farmers commit suicide annually and about 60% of families are in debt. He displayed examples form Schools in Kerala, where children are motivated to cultivate their own food items in order to increase awareness and help them to lead a stress free life. He also highlighted that many pesticides are used in the

food that causes health risk and social workers need to raise their voice against this.

Finally, Dr. Umar Farook, spoke on alternative medicinal system, wherein he said that knowledge should be practiced in the field. He talked about Medicine being part of human being and Commercialization of Traditional medicine. He said that our body is a natural system and we need to listen to our own voices; and there is no need to be highly dependent on laboratory procedures, as they may not always be true.

The program ended with Valedictory ceremony in the presence of the chief guest Mr. Bezwada Wilson, who shared his knowledge and wisdom on Manual Scavenging, and significance of social work profession. The conference was concluded on 13th February at 5.30 pm.