

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)**

**CHENNAI-600 086**

**Centre for Women's Studies**

**Report of Activities for 2021-2022**

**Leading Together -The 2021 Dialogues on Women & Leadership in India & Australia**

A transnational, inter-disciplinary and inter-sectional discourse on women and leadership.

- Leading Together is a collaboration between undergraduate students at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne and undergraduate students at four institutions across India comprising Tetso College in Nagaland, Stella Maris College in Chennai (affiliated with the University of Madras), Savitribai Phule Pune University in Pune and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati Campus and Tuljapur Campus. This is a place for students in India and Australia to connect with each other and discuss the role of young women and leadership across health, technology, education and sustainability
- The Leading Together Dialogue with the University of Melbourne continued in November 2021 with the students attending the programme online with partnering institutions.

Aside from the dialogue that took place on 12 November 2022, we went on to create an amazing virtual gallery and archive of students works under the four topic areas. Modelled off themes within the Sustainable Development Goals, students focused on the impact of women in the areas

1. Women as leaders in health policy and health advocacy work.
2. Women as leaders in sustainability.
3. Women at the forefront of technological innovation.
4. Celebrating women leading in education.

A talk was organized for the students on google platform on

**“ Feminism and Queer Awareness among Youth”**

by a Psychologist and Feminist Therapist Ms. Shibili Suhanah on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 .

**International Women’s Day Celebrations**

The Centre co- hosted the **International Women’s Day** with the Gender Centre. A Special Session was held at the open air Theatre for the entire college on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022. To celebrate, recognise and appreciate the contributions and achievements of women in various fields, and we had invited two distinguished women - leaders in their own fields, to inspire the students with their unique narratives.

Chief Guest - Tmt. Mageswari Ravikumar IAS - Joint Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Water Resources Department. she has dedicated her professional journey towards services to the public - issuing old age pensions, spearheading projects to restore and protect water bodies, actively stopping child marriage and promoting girl education, improving the livelihood of women folk, fisherwomen and the weaver community. Adding to her list of numerous achievements, she has been awarded - the Best District Collector for improving the Child Sex Ratio as a part of “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” campaign. She is also the recipient of Skoch Award - for restoration of temple and Irrigation Tank.

Guest of Honour - Dr. Gomathy Narasimhan - the first woman Liver and Renal Transplant Surgeon in India, practices at Dr Rela Institute and Medical Centre, Chennai. Having trained from Madras Medical College, Dr. Gomathi went on to pursue transplant training from the USA and Japan. She has over 20 years of

experience in Transplant surgery, with a special focus on transplantation for children. She is a marathon runner and believes in the power of fitness and health as one of the key aspects in determining a woman's mental strength and confidence.

Keeping up with the theme of International Women's Day 2022 - #BreakTheBias The guests addressed the students in a lucid and thought provoking manner.

### **Other Activities**

- Session on motivation for the students of Damini Club was held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022 5 p.m. on google platform by Ms Ramya Menon, Habit Coach, Corporate Trainer & Sound Healer on the Topic 'THE 3 LETTER WORD is NEW GROWTH MINDSET'
- The Director of the Centre participated in the inauguration of Gender and Policy lab and a knowledge sharing workshop on Women & Safety and Mobility on 1 April 2022 organised by the Commissioner Greater Chennai Corporation, Special Projects Department.

**Damini Club** the student's wing, is for the women of Stella Maris, where sisterhood is culminated amongst the diverse groups of people. It aims at instilling a sense of power, acknowledgement, and appreciation in young women in the campus. The club encourages and motivates them to be the best version of themselves.

- A number of Events and Competitions were held in the months of December 2021 and January 2022 to encourage the students to participate in the narrative

1. Poetry writing

Theme: Letter to Patriarchy.

## 2. Photography Competition

Theme: Shadow of our Society.

## 3. Junk Art

Theme: The Holiday Magic

- Essay writing competition in English and Tamil, was held on 23 November 2021 on the topics Women and Society, and The Right to Know.
- Iconic Women Environmentalists was the theme for the online Quiz Competition held on 25 October 2021 in collaboration with the Enviro club.
- Youth awakening day- Elocution Competition was held online through the G Meet platform on 13 October 2021 at 6.30pm. An overwhelming participation from the students with seventeen participants showed their enthusiasm.
- Informal meet online to welcome the new Damini members on the 10th of October 2021
- Fresher's talent hunt with Poetry Reading was organized to familiarize the fresher's to the club.
- Poster making Competition Theme- Break the Bias
- Cosplay Competition Women Icons in History and Pop culture
- Drawing/Painting Competition on 'Freedom of Modern Day Women'
- Poetry writing 'Letter to Patriarchy'
- Photography Competition Theme: Shadow of our Society.  
An overwhelming participation from the students showed their involvement in women's issues.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 8 MARCH 2022







SMC since 1947 **75** Centre for Women's Studies DAMINI CLUB

DAMINI 21-22 PRESENTS

*Astrape '22*  
*#FeelTheLightning*

WEBINAR

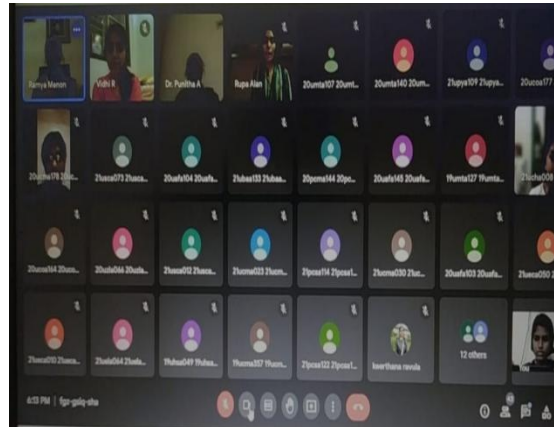
Resource Person: Ramya R  
 Habit Coach, Corporate Trainer and Sound Healer

@  
 5:00PM  
 12/03/2022  
 BE THERE!

GOOGLE MEET CODES:  
 FGZ-GSIQ-SHA  
 RFW-UUOI-ACV



## WEBINARS



SMC since 1947 **75** Centre for Women's Studies DAMINI CLUB

DAMINI 21-22 PRESENTS

*Astrape '22*  
*#FeelTheLightning*

Part-2 of our  
 Women's Day Bash

- Webinar
- Quiz
- Reels Making

SMC since 1947 **75** Centre for Women's Studies DAMINI CLUB

Stella Maris College (Autonomous)  
 Chennai  
 Damini Club 2021-22  
 invites you to a Webinar  
 On the topic  
*Feminism and Queer  
 Awareness amongst the Youth*

By Shibili Sumanah  
 @soperawomen  
 Psychologist, Queer affirmative, Feminist therapist

14th February, 2022 5.00 p.m.

All participants will receive e-Certificates.