



January 2023

W G S H A Chronicle

Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration



Featuring the events from December 2022



"I have witnessed the strong bond between Mr Y C Deveshwar and MAHE Chancellor Dr Ramdas M Pai during the college's silver jubilee, which is visible in the ITC-MAHE partnership"

CELEBRATING

#37

Years of Legacy in
Hospitality Education



FOREWORD

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of the WGSHA Chronicle! We are delighted to share with you the exciting events and achievements that have taken place over the past month.

Firstly, we would like to reflect on our annual day celebrations, which were tremendously successful. Our students and faculty members put in a lot of hard work and dedication to make this event memorable. The performances, speeches, and exhibits showcased our students' immense talent and creativity, leaving us all feeling inspired and proud.

Another highlight of the month was our Christmas lunch, which brought together our WGSHA family to celebrate the festive season. The atmosphere was filled with joy, laughter and delicious food, creating a warm and welcoming environment.

In addition, we are proud to share the achievements of our students and alumni. They continue to make us proud through their academic excellence, leadership, and extracurricular accomplishments. Their dedication and hard work have resulted in numerous accolades, and we are thrilled to see them excel in their chosen fields.

This issue will give you a glimpse into our vibrant and dynamic community at WGSHA. We are committed to providing our students with a well-rounded education that nurtures their academic, social, and emotional growth. We thank our faculty members, students, alumni, and parents for their ongoing support in making our institute successful.

Happy reading!

Dr. (Chef) K. Thirugnanasambantham
Ph.D., M.Sc., M.B.A, M.I.H

Principal, WGSHA



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ANNUAL DAY AND AWARDS CEREMONY 2022

December 6, 2022: *Welcomgroup Graduate School of Hotel Administration (WGSHA)*, a constituent unit of *Manipal Academy of Higher Education*, Manipal, celebrated the college's Annual Day & Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at the lawns of *Fortune Inn Valley View*, Manipal in the presence of the Chief Guest Mr Sanjay Bose, Executive Vice President, Human Resources & Learning & Development, Hotels Division, ITC Limited, Dr. H S Ballal, MAHE Pro Chancellor, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh, Vice Chancellor, Mr. Anil Chadha, Divisional Chief Executive, Hotels Division, ITC Limited and Distinguished Alumnus Awardee 2022, Dr. Narayana Sabhahit, Pro Vice Chancellor-Technology & Science, Dr. Giridhar Kini, Registrar, Dr. John Niser and Dr. Ralf Burbach, representatives from Hotel Schools of Distinction, along with other senior ITC and MAHE Officials.

Dr. Chef K. Thirugnanasambantham, Principal of WGSHA, welcomed the dignitaries and guests and presented the annual report for the year 2022, where he highlighted the college's events and achievements including WGSHA's recent accreditations, rankings, collaborations, awards, prizes won by students in international and national competitions, guest-visits, conferences and workshops organized by the college, faculty publications, recognitions, accolades, etc.

This year's special achievements included WGSHA's student Ms. Thanmayee Nalamothu participating in World Skills Special Edition, 2022 and Principal Dr. Chef Thiru and Mr. Paritosh Dabral being selected as Team India Experts.



Chief Guest, Mr. Sanjay Bose appreciated WGSHA's glorious achievements and outstanding hotel industry accolades. He also appreciated WGSHA for giving the students platform to showcase their talents. He encouraged the WGSHA students to take up internships at ITC and other branded hotels around the globe.

The Awards ceremony included achievers from the last 3 years since this award ceremony couldn't be held due to the pandemic. Important awards given away in the evening were ITC Chairman's Gold Medals for university toppers of BA (Culinary Arts) to Tanchi Emson Lee, Divya Sarah Varghese and Sai Motupali Nair; ITC Chairman's Gold Medals for Best Outgoing Students of BHM to Rushali Mahesh, Lavanya R Raja and Sanjukta Chakravarthi; ITC Chairman's Gold Medals for Best Outgoing Students of BA (Culinary Arts) to Melroy Sylvester Barboza, Raghavi Bajaj and Rijul Bose. The ITC Scholarships were also awarded to class toppers.





The endowment awards included Chef Vikas Khanna Trophy to Sadhika Venkatesh, Ricky Victor D'Souza Memorial Awards to Taksh Bhojwani and Rajat Alve, Prof. Trevor Devas Cash Prize to Nischal Hebbar, Mrs. G. Sathyavathi award to Tanchi Emson Lee, Divya Sarah Varghese, etc.

The coveted *Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2022* was awarded to Mr. Anil Chadha, Divisional Chief Executive, Hotels Division, ITC Limited by Dr. H S Ballal, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh, and Mr. Sanjay Bose.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Anil Chadha recalled his fond memories of his college days and mentioned that the college has grown in students' strength, having multiple courses and a very developed infrastructure. He also said that he had witnessed the strong bond between Mr. Y C Deveshwar and MAHE Chancellor Dr. Ramdas M Pai during the college's silver jubilee, which is visible in the ITC-MAHE partnership. In his message to the students, he said, "You must live your dream and to do that you must have a dream and follow it diligently". Later, Vice Principal Dr. P Rajshekhar proposed the vote of thanks.

A delicious dinner prepared by the budding young chef students and Chef faculty was served after the cultural extravaganza.

WGSHA, with its glorious history of over three decades, has been ranked among the top hotel management schools in the world and has assumed a leadership role in the hospitality education and research.





HSD VISIT

SITE INSPECTION BY HOTEL SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION



December 05-07, 2022: WGSHA hosted a two-member team from Hotel Schools of Distinction (HSD), USA that was on a site visit to evaluate WGSHA's application for full membership to the organization. The team comprised of Dr John Niser, Director, Hospitality and Tourism Management at the International School of Hospitality, Sports, and Tourism Management of Fairleigh Dickinson University, USA and Dr. Ralf Burbach, Head of the Hospitality Management Discipline and Assistant Head of the School of Hospitality Management and Tourism, Technological University Dublin, Ireland.

The team interviewed faculty members and students, toured the college, carried-out academic audits, and inspected university facilities.

In their meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Niser and Dr. Burbach expressed satisfaction with the college's infrastructure, pedagogy, research, and extension work. Issues related to joint research, staff and student exchange, summer school, etc. were discussed. The team members attended and participated in the Annual Day programme on the 06th of December 2022 and were impressed with the cultural show and the lavish buffet the students put together. During this event, they met Mr. Anil Chadha who is the Divisional Chief Executive of ITC's hotel business (and a WGSHA alumnus) and conveyed their appreciation for ITC commitment to nurturing future generations of hospitality professionals with this accreditation, WGSHA will become the only hospitality institute in the Asia-Pacific region to be accredited by the Hotel Schools of Distinction (HSD), USA, and will join a select and global group of 9 hospitality management institutes in the world.



SANJAY BOSE VISIT NEW WGSHA BUILDING

December 07, 2022: Mr. Sanjay Bose, Executive Vice President of HR ITC Hotels, visited the new WGSHA building with a world-class infrastructure, which will be opening shortly.

Mr. Bose was amazed by seeing the 5-star facility being experienced by the students at this institute.



BELLA ITALIA SIMULATION II

December 10, 2022: A fine dining experience with authentic Italian food and an overall ambiance that will take you directly to Italy.

Students of the 11th Course B.A. (Culinary Arts) of WGSHA operated an Italian theme restaurant Bella Italia – Simulation II, on the 10th of December 2022, at Fortune Valley Inn View.



January 2023



WELCOMGROUP GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION
MANIPAL
(A constituent unit of MAHE, Manipal)



Member ITC's hotel group





CULINARY ARTS | WGSHA
PRESENTS

Bella Italia

Savour the Flavour of Italy

10TH DECEMBER 2022
FIVV CHAYA
7 PM ONWARDS



Organising a session on

personal BRANDING

- Participants:**
- MA Indian Cuisine and Food Culture
 - Master of Hotel Management and Catering Technology (MHM & CT)



Dr A C-Balaji
 Associate Professor & HOD - Animation
 Manipal Institute of Communication
 MAHE

13th December 2022
 Time : 02.30 PM to 05.00 PM
 Venue: Computer Lab

Dr. (Chef) K. Thirugnanasambantham
 Principal, WGS HA

APPROVALS AND ACCREDITATIONS



PERSONAL BRANDING BY DR. BALAJI

December 13, 2022: As a part of the Pre-placement preparation drive, a workshop on **Personal Branding** was organized on 13th December 2022, from 2:30 pm till 5:30 pm, for students of Master of Hotel Management and Catering Technology (MHMCT) 2nd Course and MA Indian Cuisine and Food Culture (MAIC) 1st Course with Dr. A.C. Balaji.

Dr. Balaji is the HOD of Animation at the Manipal Institute of Communication, MAHE. He took a session on personal branding for second-year students who are ready to enter the industry and leave their mark. The session had discussions about what personal branding is. How can LinkedIn be used as a valuable tool to network and brand us? The students got to know about the do's and don'ts in the social media space to build a reputation. Mr. Balaji graciously shared many tools, tips, tricks, and techniques for the students to build a unique resume and profile. The session ended with the students clearing their doubts that they had about entering the offline and the online space of the industry. The students enjoyed the session immensely and learned essential workplace skills during the session. The session ended with a vote of thanks to the resource person.



FASTEST PMS CHECK-IN COMPETITION BY FO

December 13, 2022: Department of Front Office of WGSHA organised the “Fastest Check-in on PMS” competition for the Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM) 35th and 36th Courses! The competition included parameters like guest profile making, reservation processing, room assignment, and guest check In. The main aim of the competition was to process the guest check-in on PMS in the minimum timeframe. Students participated with great enthusiasm.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH HOSTEL FESTIVAL

December 15, 2022: Christmas Lunch – a Hostel Festival was organized at WGSHA hostel. Students experienced hospitality and generosity, which are the key aspects of the season through sharing food.

Everyone enjoyed the ‘music’ performance by the students.



WGSHA PRESENTS

FRONT OFFICE COMPETITION FASTEST CHECK-IN ON PMS

Prepare yourself to be the most phenomenal and elegant contestant to shine as the best Front Office Personnel

DATE-14-12-2022
TIME-5:20PM
VENUE-WGSHA COMPUTER LAB



You're cordially
Invited!

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Cultural Program
12.30 PM to 01.00 PM

Venue: WGSHA Hostel Mess
15th December 2022 | 01.00 PM to 02.00 PM

DECEMBER
2022

Laurels from Alumni, Students and Faculty

WGSHA Alumni



Hearty congratulations to **Chef-Owner Deepankar Khosla**, for being instrumental in his restaurant "**Haoma**" winning the prestigious "**MICHELIN Green Star**" **Haoma, Bangkok** – Thailand's only sustainable restaurant.

WGSHA Alumnus 22nd Course – Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM)

Congratulations!

Dr. (Chef) K. Thirugnanasambantham
Principal, WGSHA

Chef Deepankar Khosla

Chef Deepankar Khosla (Alumnus 22nd Course BHM, WGSHA), the **Chef-Owner Haoma Bangkok**, is beaming with pride and happiness at the MICHELIN Star Revelation Ceremony, which is the official release of the MICHELIN Guide Thailand 2023 edition. Michelin unveiled recipients of the prestigious MICHELIN Green Star, and Haoma, known as Thailand's only sustainable restaurant, emerged as the winner. The Michelin Green Star award is presented to restaurants that embrace sustainability in their everyday runnings, targeting food waste and spotlighting local and seasonal ingredients. Deepankar proudly says, "It is the result of our six years of hard work, efforts, and relentless commitment to sustainable practices and improving the ecosystem of the restaurant industry".

Chef Thiru and Team WGSHA are proud and happy to congratulate Deepankar for this remarkable achievement. We are proud to mention that Chef Deepankar is the 2nd alumnus from WGSHA to have received this coveted standing after Chef Vikas Khanna.

WGSHA Students



Mr. Sukrit Sabharwal

The Chess Olympiad is the biggest event in the chess world, where players around the globe gather in one place to compete for a medal for their country. This time at the 44th Chess Olympiad, a record number of 187 countries participated. The All-India Chess Federation (AICF) made the event a giant success.

We are happy to share that our student, Sukrit Sabharwal, from the 36th Course (BHM), was selected as a volunteer through two rounds of interviews at the Olympiad along with 400 other fellow volunteers. On the very first day, he started working closely with the head of the volunteer team Mr. Prateek Mohan.





**WELCOMGROUP GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION**
MANIPAL
(A constituent unit of MAHE, Manipal)

**EXPERIENCE EXCELLENCE AT
WGSHA, MANIPAL**



**Bachelor of
Hotel
Management**

**Bachelor of
Arts (Culinary
Arts)**

**MSc (Dietetics
and Applied
Nutrition)**

**Master of Hotel
Management**

**Master of Arts
(Indian Cuisine
& Food Culture)**

<https://apply.manipal.edu/>

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