

Student Activity Report (2021-22)

The English Debating Society

Overview of the Society

The English Debating Society of Miranda House is a group of individuals who are eager to learn, read, and grow in various spheres of life. We make an effort to practice the art of debating by concentrating on three crucial areas: manner, content, and procedure. Additionally, we encourage members to gain as much experience as possible, and we do our best to respect and accommodate the various identities that make up our society.

Activities

The session of 2021-22 started with the **annual council elections**. Nominations were followed by the manifesto reading, and post that elections took place on the 22nd of April, 2021. The council composition was as follows -

- President: Anushka Bhattacharya (Political Science Honours)
- Vice President: Suhana Simran (English Honours)
- Treasurer: Devika M. (Economics Honours)
- General Secretary: Kamalkoli Majumdar (Sociology Honours)
- Public Relations Head: Suhani Duhan (B.A. Programme)

The English Debating Society participated in the **Annual Orientation** conducted by the college on the 22nd of November, 2021. All students were given a briefing with regards to the workings of the society, and directed to the audition form. The society held auditions for the batch of 2022 on the 3rd and 6th of January, 2022. All students of Miranda House, irrespective of year of study, were welcome to participate. After two intense rounds of auditions involving over 400 candidates, 29 were selected to be a part of the society.

Shama Kohli is the Annual Conventional Debate of Miranda House. This year's debate was held on the 11th of November 2021, on GMeet, as a one day event. It was open to all, regardless of affiliations to an institutional debating society.

Shama Kohli '21 had an all-women judge panel, consisting of Vibha Swaminathan from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Gauri Ramachandran from Hindu College and Surmayi Khatana, an alumni of Miranda House.

The motion of the tournament was - THS the doctrine of armed humanitarian intervention.

The English Debating society of Miranda House **collaborated with Vaani project, a debate and public speaking program under Teach for India (TFI)**. It is a platform which helps youngsters to voice their opinions by giving them an equitable space for personality

development. On a lighter note, the journey of the students has been a fun one as they have learnt debating right from ground up and now they actively engage and act participative. The project is an inclusive initiative to improve access to important skills for underprivileged children.

The preliminary round of the Showcase Debate 1.0 was held on the 21st of January, 2022 with enthusiastic participation from the children and society members of Miranda House. The finals were held on the 28th of January, 2022 with the senior most judges from the English Debating Society on panel.

The motions for both rounds were as follows -

Preliminary Round: THBT Economic development should take priority over environmental concerns.

Final Round : THBT the government should prioritise education over every other sector.

its **annual parliamentary debate, Manzar 2022**, on the 9th and 11th of April, 2022 on the platforms of Discord and Zoom. Unlike previous editions, this year's tournament was a Gender and Sexual Minorities British Parliamentary Debate. It was open to those who identify as belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community, women and debaters anywhere on the spectrum apart from being a cis-het male.

Keeping up with our years long legacy of prioritising accessibility, the tournament was free of any registration fees, to ensure that financial constraints didn't get in the way of debaters looking forward to participating.

Manzar '22 was the first tournament of its kind in the Delhi debating circuit. Additionally, Miranda House's parliamentary debate remains one of the only tournaments that are free of all registration fees. The tournament was a huge success and saw participation from over seventy institutions. There were over one hundred and fifty participants, who debated or judged in five in-rounds and three out-rounds.

Student Achievements

Winners for Vinod Chowdhury Memorial Debate, St. Stephens College '21, (BP) (Anshika) and Imperium Conventional Debate '21 (Siddhi)

Finalists for NLUO PD '21 (Suhani, Kamalkoli), WDF XVI Nepal '21 (Suhani, Kamalkoli), NUJS '22 (Kanika), WDF Pro-Am '22 (Samriddhi, Kamalkoli), Munaazrah '21 (Anushka, Kamalkoli, Suhani)

Semi-Finalists for DDUC PD (Vitark 2022) (Suhani, Kamalkoli), SBS PD '22 (Kanika) , IITD PD '22 (AP) (Anshika)

Quarter-Finalists for, DSNPD '21 (Suhani, Kamalkoli), Polemic '21 (Ramjas PD) (Kamalkoli, Nilasri, Suhani), DTU PD '21 (Anshika, Gowri) (Suhani, Kamalkoli), Philippine Wom*n's Open '21 (Suhani, Kamalkoli)

Octo-Finalists for Polemic '21 (Ramjas PD) (Vedika, Kavya, Vanshika), ESL, Uhuru Worlds 2022 (BP) (Anshika, Gowri)

In Novice Category , Winner, WDF XVI '21 (Nepal) (Siddhi, Kavya), Finalists, Philippine Wom*n's Open '21 (Gowri, Ramsha) (Anshika, Nilasri), Semi-Finalists, Rahat PD '21 (Ritwika, Megha, Prerna), Pro-Am Finalist, IITB PD '21 (Suhani, Kamalkoli)

For the Freshers , Open Quarter Finalists - Vivaad '22 (Medhavini, Kaushiki, Hiyaa), Novice Winners - SBS PD '22 (Farva, Rishika), Novice Finalist - DDUC PD (Vitark 2022) (Medhavini, Nandini), Novice Semi-Finalist - SBS PD'22 (Nandini, Saraswathy), Novice Semi-Finalist - DDUC PD (Vitark 2022) (Hiyaa, Kaushiki) (Chaaahat, Farva), Reserve break - SBS PD'22 (Medhavini, Chaaahat), Breaking and 4th Best Adjudicator - NSMPD '22 (Nandini)

The Judging Credentials include, Core Adjudicator, DTUPD '21 (Kanika), Core Adjudicator, NSMPD '22 (Kanika), Core Adjudicator, Mukharji Memorial Parliamentary Debate '22 (Kanika), Core Adjudicator, DNLU PD '22 (Kanika), Best Invited Adjudicator and Open Finals Judge - Hansraj '22 (Kanika), Breaking Adjudicator - United Asians Debating Championship '21 (Kanika), Breaking Adjudicator - RML PD'21 (Kanika), Breaking and Best Adjudicator, DSNPD '21, (BP) (Anshika), Invited and Best Adjudicator, WDF Pro Am XVII, Nepal 2022 (BP) (Anshika), Breaking Adjudicator, Munazraah '21 (AP) (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, London School of Economics Open '22, (BP) (Anshika), Invited and Breaking Adjudicator, NSMPD '22 (AP) (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, Rotary Asian Parliamentary Debate 2021 (AP) (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, Vijaybhoomi University Conventional Debate '21 (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, Farmako 2.0, SPPSTPTM NMIMS '21 (Oxford Style) (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, LearnIQo Asian Parliamentary Debate '22 (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, Vijaybhoomi '21 Conventional Debate (Anshika), Invited Adjudicator, Vijaybhoomi '21 Conventional Debate (Siddhi), Panelist at Novice Finals, Polemics '21 (Anshika), Subsidised and

Breaking Adjudicator, BITS Pilani '22, (BP) (Anshika), Subsidised Adjudicator, NUJS Asian Parliamentary Debate '22, (AP) (Anshika), Breaking Adjudicator, DSNPD '21 (Vanshika), Breaking Adjudicator, RPMD '21 (Gowri), Breaking Adjudicator, Polemic '21 (Ramjas PD) (Ramsha), Breaking Adjudicator, Rahat PD '21 (Suhani), Breaking Adjudicator, Philippine Wom*n's Open'21 (Kavya), Breaking Adjudicator, DRC APD '21 (Suhani)