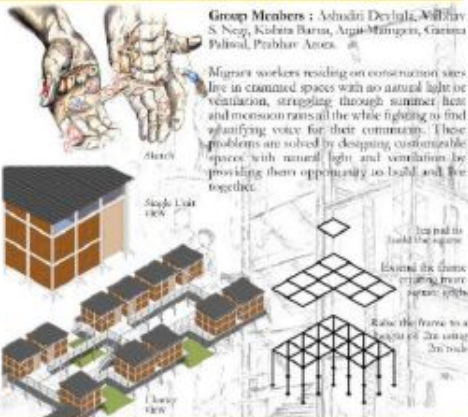


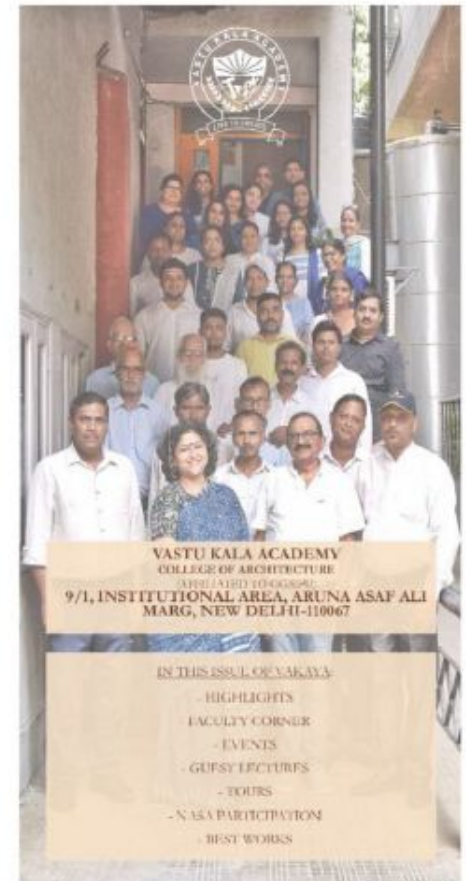
NASA: ANDC SHORTLISTED ENTRY 2021-22



BEST WORK (ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN)



BEST WORKS (ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN)



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Warm Greetings and Congratulations- Welcome to Vastu Kala Academy, College of Architecture. It is with great honour and pleasure that I extend best wishes to you all on behalf of the entire Vastu Kala community. As the Director of the College, I am extremely proud of the rich tradition of providing holistic, practical, experiential and hands-on architectural education that our institute has been acceding ever since 1993. The pedagogy that we follow celebrates the distinctiveness of each individual and channelizes their creativity into academic excellence. I am deeply grateful for the presence of an outstanding group of full time, contractual and visiting faculty as well as staff and leadership of Vastu Kala Academy. Chairman sir, who all have worked tirelessly to ensure the best possible learning experience for you at VAKA.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM



Dear Readers, Welcome to the Newsletter: Issue of September 2022 of Vastu Kala Academy College of Architecture. The College Newsletter has become a regular publication and we are delighted to inform you that we have continued the legacy for the same. Only now we have christened this VAKAYA (अवकाश) anecdote in English). The spirit behind publishing VAKAYA is to highlight the academic and non-academic events that took place in the previous semester of the College. The Team has put in extensive efforts towards making this Newsletter for the students and about the students of this prestigious institution. We hope our Readers find something for themselves in this issue of VAKAYA.

HIGHLIGHTS

BACK TO COLLEGE

'A new college year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean, and anything can happen.'

After functioning online for about two years, Vastu Kala Academy College of Architecture, under the instruction from GGSIPU, finally announced the resumption of offline classes from 14 February 2022. Educational institutions in the national capital were closed in March 2020 following nationwide lockdowns to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus. While they reopened in phases, hybrid mode of classes: online and offline became the popular approach and students were allowed to attend offline classes only with their parents' consent. The College aimed at resuming normal work as per the guidelines provided by the Central Government and the State Government as well as the UGC, by adopting the SOPs. The past two years had been a challenge for teachers and students in terms of teaching and learning respectively. All students were exhilarated to be back on the campus. The faculty also expressed joy on the commencement of offline classes as they could now pay better attention to the students and monitor their progress closely.

'Architecture is a profession, where you cannot learn online. It involves site visits, group projects, and other communal activities. It is a very involved profession, for which you need to be physically present.'

WELCOMING THE NEW DIRECTOR

Vastu Kala Academy College of Architecture welcomed its new Director, Prof. Shihli Sinha on 27 July 2022. It was a pleasant ceremony, where the Faculty Members welcomed and interacted with the new Director. A welcome ceremony is incomplete without a token of love. Public from First Year presented the new Director, Prof. Shihli Sinha with a hand sketched portrait of her, on behalf of the Vastu Kala Family.



COLLEGE INSPECTION

An inspection by a joint team from Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU) and the Council of Architecture (CoA) was conducted on 2 May 2022 in the College. The inspectors were accompanied by faculty members Prof. Sanjay Mehra and Mr. Akash Sharma, and Mr. N.K. Sharma from the Admin Department. The inspection was conducted to verify the Minimum Standards of Architectural Education required for granting recognised qualifications by the College, as per Section 21 of the Architects Act, 1972. The inspectors took a note of the college premises, the facilities and the displayed works of students. These members also assessed the viability of the college to introduce a Master's degree programme. Overall, the inspection went smoothly.

FACULTY CORNER



Prof. Shihli Sinha, Prof. Sanjay Mehra, Prof. Rashmi B. Tandon, Prof. Shihli Sinha, Prof. Jyoti Luthra, Prof. Shihli Sinha, Ms. Kavita Revu, Ms. Saima Shakil

Publication, Paper:

Prof. Shihli Sinha
Vertical Design Studio: A Pedagogical Breakthrough; A Pedagogue's Perspective, Journal of Indian Institute of Architects, Refereed Journal of IIA, ISSN-0019-4913, July 2022.

Prof. Sanjay Mehra
Common Ground Research Networks Peer Review Five Papers for The Design Principles and Practices Journal Collection, University of Illinois Research Park, USA, 2020-22.

Prof. Rashmi B. Tandon
Skills and Competencies as essential enablers of Quality in Architecture Education: Paper presented in the 5th International Conference on Future of Education, June 2022 in virtual mode.

Prof. Jyoti Luthra
Presented a research paper at the 1st International Conference on Design Innovations and Management for Sustainable Environment (ICDIMSE 2022) conducted by the Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology and Eastern Mediterranean University, on 15-16 March 2022.

Mr. Shoeb Alam
1. Development of standard layout plans for Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS-2022) Health and wellness centres-sub-Health centres, Health, and wellness centres-Primary Health centres.

2. Standard Layout Plans of 500, 400, 300, 200, 100 and 50 bedded of District Hospital-IPHS 2022 National Health Systems Resource Centre Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (NHSRC).

3. Standard layout plans for Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS-2022) 50 and 100 bedded community Health Services (CHC) With FRU, CHC, 24x7 PHC, Day care PHC, UPHC and polyclinic.

4. Standard Layout Plans of 50 and 75 bedded Critical Care Hospital Block-PM-ABHM 2022.

FDP, Conference, Jury:

Prof. Shihli Sinha
1. Special invitee at the NITI Aayog celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Ambedkar International Centre, Jaipur, on 28 April 2022.
2. Juror for Urban Design, Fourth Year at MBS Dwarka.
3. Juror for Architectural Design, Third Year at MBS Dwarka.

Mr. Shoeb Alam
1. Observer for 6 NATYA Exams.
2. Juror for Dissertation-M.Arch, at Jamia Millia Islamia.
3. Juror for Architectural Drawing, First Year at Jamia Millia Islamia.
4. Juror for Architectural Drawing, Second Year at Jamia Millia Islamia.

FACULTY CORNER

Prof. Rashmi B. Tandon

1. Expert speaker for session on 'Skills and Competencies as enabling essentials for Quality in Architecture Education' as part of 5-days National Online Faculty Development Program on Sustainable Development Goals IV: Agenda 2030, organised by CoA TRC Bhopal and Rajiv Gandhi Prodyogiki Vishwavidyalaya, 21-25 March 2022.

2. Delegate in National Online Faculty Development Program 'Outcome Based Education: Best Practices in Architecture and Planning Education' organised by CoA TRC Bhopal, 10-14 January 2022.

3. Attended 4 day online Teacher Training Program 'Knowledge and Employability' jointly organised by CoA TRC Pune and DYPatil Akaradi Pune, 5-8 July 2022.

4. Hosted 2 technical sessions as Session Chair for Innovative Educational Practices III and Learning Sciences II at the Fifth International Conference Future of Education 2022, organised by IITKM, Sri Lanka, 16 June 2022 in virtual mode.

5. External juror for M.Arch Thesis Jury at Amity SAP, 30 May 2022.
6. Juror for First Year Jury at Faculty of Architecture JMI, July 2022.

Ms. Saima Shakil
1. Participated in a Five day Faculty Development Programme on 'Architectural Design Studio- Exploration and Experimentation in Design Process' organised by School of Architecture and Interior Design, SRMIST, Kattankulathur Campus.

2. Juror for Architectural Drawing and Building Construction, First Year at MBS Dwarka.

Ms. Kavita Revu
1. Participated in Online Training Programme on Modern Geotechnical Engineering from 07.02.2022 to 11.02.2022 conducted by National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research Institute (NITTTR) Chennai.



Faculty of Vastu Kala Academy :
Row 1 (L-R) : Sarish Khanna, Rashmi B. Tandon, Shihli Sinha, Shihli Sinha, Sanjay Mehra.
Row 2 (L-R) : Saima Shakil, Yashvati Guleria, Niraja Adloor, Saumya Kohli, Jyoti Luthra.
Row 3 (L-R) : Sarika Nanavati, Akash Sharma, Kavita Revu, Shoeb Alam.
Row 4 (L-R) : Vijay Matange, Vidushi Singh, Beena Tamboli, Ganita Dalbey, Anika Bajpai.

EVENTS

Shigaaz (Agaaz): 2-Day Sports & Cultural fest

The College, with the help of the Student Body, organised a successful fest: Shigaaz (Agaaz), from 12-13 April 2022. The event showcased talents of all students in different genres apart from academics.

Day 1 commenced with inter batch Sports events- Badminton and Kho-Kho. Winners: Badminton- 3rd Year, Kho-Kho- 4th Year, Volleyball- 4th Year. A virtual lecture by Ms. Pavithra from Moephogenesis, Mumbai was organised by Ms. Yashvati Guleria, on the topic- Conceptual Processes in Architectural Practices. Workshops like pencil carving, hand rendering and architectural softwares were also conducted by students of the college. **Day 2** began with sports events- Tag of War and Table Tennis. Winners: Tag of War- 4th Year, Table Tennis- 2nd Year. An alumni lecture by Ar. Soham Doshi of Doshi Design Studio (Defence Colony, New Delhi), was organised by Ms. Saumya Kohli. A **puest lecture** by Mr. Sushant Bhardwaj was organised by Prof. Rashmi B. Tandon, on the topic- Role of Architectural Conservation. Shigaaz culminated in 2 solo dance, 3 group dance and 3 solo music performances, a Nukkad Nazam and prize distribution ceremony.



Farewell: Batch 2017-2022

The Farewell for the Batch of 2017-22 was held in the College premises on 14 Mar 2022. The programme commenced with lighting of the inaugural lamp, followed by Prof. Rashmi Baiya Tandon felicitating the students on completion of their practical training. Other professors then addressed the audience, emphasising on the need of sustaining the knowledge acquired by the graduating students. This was followed by dance performances, presentations and games planned by the junior batch of 2018. After a nostalgic trip down the memory lane, the professors bestowed upon each graduating student a memento along with a title. The event concluded with all attendees dancing to songs played by the DJ.



GUEST LECTURES

GUEST LECTURE ON GREEN BUILDINGS



A guest lecture was organised for the Third Year Batch on 8 April 2022, by Prof. Jyoti Luthra as part of the subject Energy and Buildings-II. This lecture was delivered by Mr. Gaurav Gupta who has been working in the industry for the last decade. In this engaging session, students were provided an insight over green and energy efficient buildings with industry examples. The discussion was followed by some hands-on exercises on few aspects of sustainability like water reduction calculation, and the criteria of ratings issued by Indian Green Building Council.

GUEST LECTURE BY AR. SANJAY PRAKASH



A guest lecture was organised for the Third Year Batch on 8 April 2022, by Prof. Shihli Sinha as part of the subject Architectural Design-VI. The lecture was delivered by Ar. Sanjay Prakash, renowned architect and principal consultant from SHBI: Studio for Habitat Futures. The hour-long lecture provided students with insights on how to design spiritual spaces and usage of materials for the same. He also talked about the importance of light and ventilation in such spaces for user comfort.

TWO-DAY STAAD PRO SOFTWARE WORKSHOP



A two-day workshop was organised for the Third Year Batch from 8-10 March 2022, by Ms. Kavita Revu as part of the subject Theory of Structure -VI. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Alok Rathore for STAAD PRO, a computer programme to analyse and design structures. Analysis and design: Process of finding out support reactions, checking sizes of structural members so they are adequate for loading conditions. This workshop was informative as it threw light on the software which is an essential part of the architectural industry.

DILLI HAAT, INA



A visit to Dilli Haat was conducted for the First Year Batch, on 11 May 2022, by Prof. Jyoti Luthra, Ms. Saima Shakil, Ms. Kavita Revu, Ms. Saumya Kohli and Ms. Vidushi Singh, for Building Construction. At Dilli Haat one can see the blend of art, craft, food and culture. Elabreite brick masonry, jali patterns, paving patterns, types of arches etc. The class was divided into 6 groups, each group had to observe, make sketches and take photos of different types of local brick bonds and arches.

KISHANGARH PARK, VASANT KUNJ



A visit was conducted to Kishangarh Park, Sector B, Vasant Kunj, for the First Year Batch, as part of Architectural Design. The visit was led by Ms. Saima Shakil, and design faculty on 19 May, 2022. The class was divided into 3 groups and tasked to observe, analyse and make note of the site spread over 1500 sq.m. Students noted all the necessary features of the site, drew sketches and conducted SWOT analysis; the drawing group measured and drafted the plan and section of the site.

OM SHANTI RETREAT, MANESAR



The Third Year Batch went for an educational trip to the Om Shanti Retreat Centre, Manesar, on 28 February 2022, led by Ms. Shihli Sinha and other faculty members. The unique learning centre provides higher education in the art of living as well as training. The aim was to provide knowledge about various aspects involved in designing a Spiritual Centre as part of the subject Architectural Design-VI. The visit involved the study of sustainable ways of designing, lighting, acoustics and landscaping. An inclusive part of the trip was pure vegetarian lunch at the Bhoginialaya.



...and much more.

- JASHN-E-KHEL ANNUAL SPORTS MEET
- SAFARNAMA: THE EDUCATIONAL TOURS
- DIVAKA: #DIVALIDILSE

IN THIS EDITION...

Beyond the Studios...

May 2023

vakaya



Crossword

- DOWN:**
1. Three-dimensional representation of a proposed structure, typically on a smaller scale (5)
 2. Horizontal plane with respect to the distance above/below a given point (5)
 3. Use of computer-based softwares to aid in design processes (3)
 4. Designating land for specific use (4)
 5. Art and science of designing spaces and structures (12)
 6. Thickness/intensity of a line used in a drawing (20)
 7. Timetable that outlines the sequence of construction activities (8)
 8. Mixture of cement, water and aggregates (8)
 9. Physical construction made on a land with a particular purpose (9)
 10. Approximate calculation of quantities, cost, or other aspects of a construction project (8)
 11. Ratio of a building's total floor area to the size of the plot upon which it is built (5)



CLUES

- ACROSS:**
1. Shape of the land and related features in a particular area (9)
 2. Simple, quickly-made drawing that does not have many details (6)
 3. Visual representation of a building, often created using computer softwares (6)
 4. Hindi word for the art of designing buildings (9)
 5. Type of orthographic projection, three-dimensional but without perspective (13)
 6. Ratio of the size of a drawing/model to the size of the real object/building (8)
 7. Idea/theory/notion which provides a direction/approach to the design (7)
 8. Area/volume in a building available for use or occupancy (5)
 9. Rectangular block of hard material used in building construction (5)
 10. Pattern used to indicate a material/textures in drawings (3)
 11. Visual appearance of a building when looked at in a particular way (5)
 12. Shape/configuration/arrangement of an object/structure (9)
 13. Building information modelling software developed by Autodesk, Inc. (5)



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READ THE PREVIOUS EDITION HERE...



IN THE NEXT EDITION...

- SITE VISITS
 - BEST WORKS
 - SOCIAL OUTREACH
- ...and much more.



Vastu Kala Academy celebrated the festival of Diwali with a three-day college fest "DIVAKA" from October 19 to October 21, 2022.

The fest was filled with a wide range of activities and competitions that encouraged a sense of camaraderie among the attendees. From artistic competitions like wall art and string art to competitions like table tennis and tug of war, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The highlight of the event was the rangoli competition, where teams captured the essence and spirit of the festival through their unique, vibrant and creative designs.

The final day's cultural event "Di Divya Gillan" was the crowning jewel of the fest featuring stunning music and dance performances by the students, a testament to the diversity and talent of the student body.

DI DIVYA GILLAN



Photo: Rakhi Singh, Aviket Pochiraju, Pooja Jaiswal

Jash-e-Khel

Annual Sports Meet



Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University's 27th Annual Sports Meet took place from December 14 to December 16, 2022, at the main sports ground in GGSIPU Dwarka, Delhi. The event was a grand affair, with enthusiastic participation from the students of Vastu Kala Academy. All batches were well-represented, with students coming together to exhibit their athletic prowess.

The participants teamed up to participate in badminton, basketball, volleyball, and tug of war, and also demonstrated their individual abilities by taking part in a range of races, including individual, relay, and cross country events. Cricket, table tennis, and weightlifting were among the other sports that saw active participation, making the event a great success.

Among the highlights of the Sports Meet was Sooraj Sin from Batch 2020-2025, who secured the 2nd position in the 500m race, displaying remarkable stamina and endurance. The girls' teams performed exceptionally well with quarter-final appearances in volleyball, kabaddi, and basketball. The participants marched proudly down the field, representing the College with great pride.

The presence of Director Prof. Shikha Sinha, faculty members, and other students in the audience inspired the participants to excel in their respective events. The Sports Meet proved to be an excellent platform that fostered a healthy competition and sportsmanship among the students from various colleges under GGSIPU.



Exploring the Marvels of Ahmedabad and Mumbai: A Journey of Batch 2020-25

The students of Third Year Batch embarked on a week-long educational tour to Ahmedabad and Mumbai, accompanied by their experienced teachers in-charge, Prof. Mohd. Shabb Alam and Prof. Ganima Dubey, from February 22 to February 28, 2023. The tour was aimed at providing the students with an opportunity to explore the architectural heritage of these two cities and gain insights into the rich culture and history of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

They visited several prominent landmarks in Ahmedabad and Mumbai, including CEPT University, Mill Owners Association Building, National Institute of Design, Aulajji Stepwell, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, and Dharamni. They also visited a site located at Marine Drive, Mumbai where they are designing a 100-bed District Hospital as a part of the subject Architectural Design - VI. They spent considerable time observing and analysing the site to gain a real-world context for their academic project. The students returned to their campus with a renewed sense of enthusiasm and a deeper appreciation for the art and science of architecture.

Safarnama

The Educational Tours

Discovering the Treasures of Jaipur and Jaisalmer: A Voyage of Batch 2022-26

The students of Second Year Batch set out on an exciting week-long educational tour to the Marwar Region of Rajasthan from February 25 to March 3, 2023. Led by their knowledgeable teachers in-charge, Ms. Kavita Revu and Ms. Anikita Bajpayee, the students explored various historical sites and buildings in Jaipur - The Sun City and Jaisalmer - The Golden City, all of which have contributed to Rajasthan's rich architectural legacy.

They had the opportunity to visit some of the most significant architectural marvels of the two cities, which included the breathtaking Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jaswant Thada, Mehrangarh Fort in Jaipur, and the enlightening Jaisalmer War Museum and Patwon Ki Haveli in Jaisalmer. They also visited a site located near Gadisar Lake, Jaisalmer where they are designing a Marwar Experiential Centre as a part of the subject Architectural Design - IV. The excursion left a lasting impact on the students, instilling in them a newfound appreciation for the intricate architectural designs and rich cultural history of these magnificent cities.

