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# *University Women*

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## INAUGURATION OF THE RENOVATED WGU HALL

### Entertainment and Fund-raising Drive

The renovated Amy Rustomjee Hall was inaugurated on Saturday, February 16, by the Chief Guest, the Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of Maharashtra, **Varsha Gaikwad**, who was very impressed by the activities conducted at the WGU. She appealed to members to give their valuable time also for the homes and institutions adopted and run by the Government of Maharashtra for less privileged women and children.

A Welcome Dance by WGU member **Shubhada Sharma** on 'Ganesh Sthuti' was enjoyed by all.

**Saranch Goila** of FOOD FOOD TV Channel fame graced the event with his Multi Cousine Demo and interacted with the audience through a question-answer session. Prizes were awarded to persons from the audience who gave correct answers. He prepared Continental and Mexican dishes. Chef **Yazad Tavakkuli**, an expert in confectionery, attended as Special Guest and was requested to assist Chef Saranch in his preparations.

Well-known Chef **Tarla Dalal** and **Amrita Raichand** of 'Mummy Ka Magic' fame, also from FOOD FOOD TV Channel, graced the occasion as Guests of Honour. They gave their valuable tips on various ways of cooking.

Indusind Media & Communications Ltd. telecast the event live for their viewers to see the event in the comfort of their homes.

The Fund Raising Drive for the year 2012-13 was an event for which all the members worked hard and saw to its success.

The WGU places on record its special thanks to the sponsors, donors, well-wishers and the Press for their support to the WGU Fund Raising Drive.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FUNCTION

The Scholarships Awards Function was held on February 2, 2013, in the newly renovated Amy Rustomjee Hall.

The Chairman of the Scholarships Committee, **Sheila Shastri**, welcomed Dr. (Mrs.) **Manjusha Molwane**, Joint Director, Higher Education, Government of Maharashtra as the Chief Guest and honoured her on the occasion. The President, **Gauri Chhabria**, briefed the audience on the activities of the WGU.

**Freyan Bhatena**, Founding Editor, Parsi Times, was the Special Guest, who was welcomed by the Hon. Secretary, Scholarships Committee, **Dolly Sagar**.

One hundred and thirty four students from varied streams ranging from under-

graduates to research studies were awarded scholarships on a need-cum-merit basis, out of which ten were Research Scholars. The WGU Research Scholarship was awarded this year to Ms. **Ruchi Palan** from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences for her Ph.D. Her subject of research was "Persons with Disabilities in Higher Education Institutions".

Most of the students are from humble backgrounds and it is heartening to note their intense desire to forge ahead in life. The awards were distributed by the Chief Guest, Special Guest, Trustees, individual donors and members of the WGU. The Chief Guest appreciated the efforts that the WGU was making towards the education of women.

### **A beautiful poem by Rabindranath Tagore**

Go not to the temple to put flowers upon the feet of God,  
First fill your own house with the Fragrance of love . . .

Go not to the temple to light candles before the altar of God,  
First remove the darkness of sin from your heart. . .

Go not to the temple to bow down your head in prayer,  
First learn to bow in humility before your fellow-men . . .

Go not to the temple to pray on bended knees,  
First bend down to lift someone who is down-trodden . . .

Go not to the temple to ask for forgiveness for your sins,  
First forgive from your heart those who have sinned against you.

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## **Study Centre Picnic**

Members of the Study Centre Committee had organised a picnic to Rani Baugh for 65 children of the WGU Study Centre. The children were accompanied by the teachers and members of the committee.

After an extensive tour of the Bhau Daji Museum, which included an explanation of the various exhibits and the literature on display, and which was enjoyed by the children, a tour of Rani Baugh, in search of the animals in their cages at the Zoo, was enthusiastically undertaken. With joyful squeals and much excitement, the children quickly identified the many colourful birds, the hippopotamus, hyena, elephants, etc.

Later, the high point of the picnic was the round of refreshments and drinks that were served and enjoyed. Certainly a memorable event for all the children.

### **TWO DIFFICULT THINGS TO ACHIEVE**

1. To plant your ideas in someone else's head
2. To put someone else's money in your own pocket.

The one who succeeds in the first is called a **TEACHER**.

And the one who'll succeeds in the second is called a **POLITICIAN**.

The one who succeeds in both is called a **WIFE**

The one who fails in both is the **HUSBAND**.

## **Counselling & Guidance Committee**

The Counselling & Guidance Committee held a Workshop on Interpersonal Relationships and Communication Skills by Ms. **Tarana Pithawalla** of Sinara Education Career Consultation Pvt. Ltd. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, in the Amy Rustomjee Hall of the WGU.

The Workshop was well-attended by members and their guests. The topic under discussion, being one of great personal interest to everyone, the interaction between the speaker and the audience was both lively and interesting.

Members were advised that being a good listener was important for successful inter-personal relationships. Relationships with our dear ones - whether with our parents or children, friends, or colleagues, do become strained due to minor oversights or harsh words. Ms. **Tarana** gave tips on how to improve and maintain our relationships. Her incisive and informative talk made the participants aware of their shortcomings. More often than not, we are unaware of our tendency to speak without giving a thought to the possible offence we may inadvertently cause our dear ones.

Learn communication skills, be tactful and listen, was the message clearly conveyed.

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## **WGU Scholarship Awards Function 2012-2013**

I attended the Women Graduates Union Scholarship Award function at the Women Graduates Union (WGU) in Colaba, Mumbai, on 2nd February 2013. The function was held to felicitate and give away scholarship awards to the selected candidates. This year, I was nominated as the WGU Scholar. It felt fabulous to see my work being given this kind of respect and recognition by the WGU.

In attendance for the award function were several Board members of the WGU, including **Sheila Shastri**, Trustee and Chairperson for the Scholarships Committee. The function was graced by the presence of two chief guests, **Freyan Bhatena**, Editor of Parsi Times and Dr. **Manjusha Molwane**, Joint Director for Higher Education in Maharashtra. Both these women, who are highly accomplished individuals in their respective fields of work, shared their experiences of being working women.

Ms. Bhatena highlighted the crucial role played by higher education in the lives of women. She aptly emphasised the significance of not just pursuing higher education but also putting it to practice to become a professional and expert in one's field of study, because it is not the degree obtained but how one

uses it that determines success in life. She accentuated that working outside the home helps women to create an identity of their own, apart from their domestic identities of being a mother, sister, wife or daughter. Consequently, it helps women to achieve a sense of independence and fulfilment. Her motivating words were hailed by a resounding applause.

Dr. Molwane's energy and enthusiasm to speak to an audience full of girls pursuing advanced studies was palpable in her speech. She reiterated Ms. Bhatena's view on the importance of work in a woman's life. Citing her own examples of operating in a male-dominated workplace, she demonstrated the need for women to approach their work with utmost sincerity and dedication so as to deter men from stereotyping women as unreliable workers. If Ms. Bhatena's speech had laid the ground for the importance for women to carry forward their academic learning into the world of work, Dr. Molwane's talk established the foundations on which women need to build their identities at their work-place.

To conclude, the awards function was an experience to treasure. It felt special to be part of an organisation such as the WGU that encourages women from all walks of life to pursue higher education and carve out a career for themselves.

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I express my heartfelt thanks to the WGU for supporting my goal of pursuing higher education. I look forward to continuing my association with the WGU and to be a resource to the organisation to the best of my capacity.

In Gratitude.  
**Ruchi Palan**  
WGU Scholar - 2103

**WOMEN GRADUATES UNION  
CONSUMER & CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PROGRAMME**

**on**

**OLD AGE HOMES**

**Speaker : Dr. Sheilu Sreenivasan**  
Founder Member and Trustee, Dignity Foundation

**Date :** Friday, March 15, 2013

**Time :** 4.30 pm

**Venue :** Amy Rustomjee Hall, WGU

**Registration by** March 12, 2013

**Registration fee :** Rs 20/- per person

Followed by Tea and Snacks.

All members and friends are cordially invited.

Kindly contact Sanam Mistry at the WGU office for details and registration.

**The Coffee Law**

As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

**Murphy's Law of Lockers**

If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

**Law of Physical Surfaces**

The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

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**WOMEN GRADUATES UNION  
CONSUMER & CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

One-day visit to

**Dignity Lifestyle, Neral**

Rs. 500/- per person

**Date :** March 17, 2013

**Starting time :** 7.00 am from WGU, Colaba

Kindly contact Sanam Mistry at WGU office for details and registration

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**When People Walk Away From You, Let Them Go.**

**Your Destiny Is Never Tied To Anyone Who Leaves You.**

**It Doesn't Mean They Are Bad People.**

**It Just Means That Their Part In Your Story Is Over !**

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*Editor :* **Dolat Kotwal**

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On behalf of **Women Graduates Union**, printed and published by President, Mrs. Sheila Shastri.

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