

Report (2017)

The department of Journalism organized its academic event Journo Junction on March 8, 2017. The theme of the event pertained to 'Media in the Digital Era- Issues, Implications and Challenges'. The theme was chosen in the context of the current digital media revolution which is in full swing, propelled by the rapid growth of the Internet and proliferation of mobile applications capable of accessing information electronically from virtually anywhere. Journo Junction explored the theme of 'Media in the digital era' through a series of academic sessions chaired by experts belonging to diverse media fields. The annual event began with an inaugural address by Mr. Josy Joseph, National Security Editor at The Hindu. Mr. Joseph is a leading investigative journalist and author of the highly acclaimed book, 'A Feast of Vultures: The Hidden Business of Democracy in India'. Mr. Joseph spoke to the students about his experiences in investigative journalism and stressed on the need for ethical journalistic practices in the current digital era. He released the Journalism newspaper , 'The Communiqué' , designed and produced by the students of the department. The second academic session at the fest comprised of a talk by Dr Kaushik Bhowmick, Associate Professor, Cinema Studies, School of Arts and Aesthetics, JNU. Dr. Bhowmick spoke at length about how the digital era has redefined the identity of cinema in contemporary times. The final academic session at the festival comprised of a talk by Ms. Paroma Mukherjee, an independent photographer. Ms. Mukherjee gave an illustrated lecture on 'Instagram as a game-changer for digital photographers'. Besides the academic sessions, Journo Junction also showcased performances by digital artists who have made it big through social media platforms. There was a magic show by Poshak Dua which drew a large crowd of enthusiastic students. The final performance in the evening comprised of a rock show by the band Rockstrings. Alongside the academic talks, there were competitions on photography and feature writing, besides a media quiz and debate which saw a good response from students of various DU colleges and other universities.

The Department held a talk on 'Religion in the Media Age' by Mr. Raof Mir, Research Scholar, Centre for Media Studies on February 16, 2017. A workshop was held for the students of the final year entitled 'An Introduction to Academic Writing', conducted by Dr. Shivani Kapoor, Faculty, Shiv Nadar University on February 27, 2017. Another workshop on 'Women and Technology' was conducted by the NGO 'Feminist Approaches to Technology' for the students of Journalism on March 28, 2017.

The Department of Journalism also organised a series of lectures 'titled 'Naye Daayre' in the July-December 2017 semester in which we invited media practitioners who have critically engaged with their craft. The inaugural talk on 24th August, 2017 by eminent journalist and founder-editor of the digital news portal 'The Wire', Siddharth Varadarajan, was very well attended. He spoke on the topic 'Digital Media: Challenges and Opportunities'. The talk was followed by a lively question - answer session with the students. The Journalism department also invited independent documentary film maker Pushpa Rawat on 21st September, 2017 for a screening of her much-awarded film 'Nirnay' which was followed by a discussion with the students. Pushpa has pushed the boundaries of the 'personal' documentary and the students were keen to understand the challenges faced by her in making the film. As part of the series on 26th October, 2017, the department of Journalism invited Neha Dixit who received the Chameli Devi Jain award for outstanding Journalist in 2016. She spoke about 'long form' narratives as a journalistic practice. She underscored the popularity of the long form story even in an age of digital brevity.

The final year Journalism students were taken on a study visit to Parliament on 3rd August, 2017 as parliamentary reporting constitutes a part of their paper on Print Journalism and Production. A two-day Print Production Workshop was organized for the final year students of Journalism on 1st September and 4th September, 2017. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Ruchika Mahajan, faculty member of NISCORT, New Delhi. The students were imparted training in DTP (Desk Top Publishing) and were taught the print softwares: Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. Another workshop on learning to use the different tools available in Adobe Photoshop to edit images and exploring the differences between editing an image and manipulating an image, were imparted to final year students. The Adobe workshop was conducted on the 8th November by Ms. Naazish Khan, Visiting faculty, School of Journalism, University of Delhi.