

Summary of Talk on various Students' Organizations

Student Organizations play a crucial role in building one's personality and help him/her in becoming a self-aware individual who is deemed to care about the welfare of the nation. They provide numerous opportunities which one won't find elsewhere.

Student organizations help in self exploration.

Joining a student organization presents many opportunities to learn more about yourself, your goals, and your strengths. You can learn from how other students handle certain situations and test your current knowledge. You can also find out what you're good at, whether that's multitasking, staying organized, generating ideas, or serving others. This self-awareness will be beneficial in your future career.

Student organizations help strengthen leadership skills.

These organizations allow students to take on responsibilities or challenges to lead and make a difference in the community and provide students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be a good leader—qualities they can take with them into life after college. Furthermore, in a survey conducted by the University of Arizona, more than half the students surveyed agreed that joining student organizations allowed them to strengthen their leadership skills.

Student organizations help build soft skills.

Soft skills are essentially “people skills” — they're the skills that allow one to effectively interact with others, like communication, attitude, and work ethic. Participating in a student organization not only teaches one these skills, but also helps him/her broaden and improve those he/she already has. One

will learn the best way to communicate with both individuals and large groups, and gain emotional intelligence as he/she develops new relationships.

Student organizations help build a bigger network.

One of the most important things in college is networking with people who share similar interests, because it gives you the chance to explore possible career opportunities and learn what it takes to reach your goals. Not only can you be exposed to real-world activities, but you can learn from former students as they return to help guide you in the right direction. Student organizations give you the opportunity to broaden your horizons, learning new skills and meeting people who can further your success as you transition from college to the real world.

Student organizations teach team management skills.

Knowing how to work well with a team is an essential skill for any career. Being in a student organization teaches you how to do this by putting you in situations where you are required to take advice from others, as well as give your own.

Student organizations teach you responsibility towards community

Many student organizations provide opportunities to give back to the community, whether through acts of service, sponsoring events, or hosting charity drives. Not only is this good for society, but it will teach you how a future business can give back, too. Lazarus says giving back to the community is the most rewarding part of being involved:

“The most rewarding aspect of being involved in a student organization is that you get to give back to the student community through fun events, giving them networking opportunities and offering them a

chance to have fun with their peers. This adds an immense value to the learning experience.”

Student organizations teach you time management.

While dealing with the struggles of being a college student, one might feel that organizing priorities and managing time has become a bit of a problem. Lucky for you, student organizations can help solve that problem. How can adding another activity to your huge list of responsibilities help you manage your time? Well, it's quite simple. Being busy allows you to organize your time effectively and prioritize each task according to its importance, which not only helps you get through to graduation day, but looks really good on your résumé. Employers want to see that you can balance work, life, and any other activities. The work you put in may feel useless right now, but it will pay off in the long run.

India has numerous important student organizations/unions working tirelessly to bring reforms in the student community. These organizations are namely :

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP)

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), an All-India student organisation, was founded in 1948, and today is the largest student organisation in the world. With the motto of “Knowledge, Character & Unity”, ABVP draws its inspiration from the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the premier Hindu nationalist organization of the country.

Objectives

- Formed immediately after the independence of India, the objective of ABVP was to channelize the energy of the youth towards the reconstruction of the nation.
- Imbued with the conviction of realising the dream of a developed nation, modern and free from all circumstantial impediments and drawbacks, ABVP, over the years conducted constructive programmes and movements towards the goal of National Reconstruction.
- With Prof Yeshwantrao Kelkar at the helm, ABVP worked towards bringing about awareness about the basic rights of the poor in the nation through programmes of grand scales.
- ABVP also works towards comprehensive educational reforms. With the belief that the Gen X should be aware of the rich heritage of India to propagate a feeling of brotherhood among people, ABVP advocates a syllabi which does not concentrate merely on career prospects, but also includes education about the country. They have been waging a constant struggle against the commercialisation of education.
- ABVP also strives to involve students in social and charitable causes.
- With the principle of social equality and harmony, ABVP encourages the virtue of equal respect for all.

All India Students Federation (AISF)

With the motto of “Study and Struggle”, AISF was founded on 12 August 1936 under the guidance of Nehru Ji. It has the honour of being the first student body to be directly involved in helping India attain independence.

Objectives

- During the pre-independence era, the students of AISF became involved in India's struggle for independence. However, the students did not see their struggle for independence in isolation from the

worldwide struggle against imperialism and colonialism. They also joined hands in the struggles against fascism and strived towards a better life for the youth.

- AISF believes in peace, progress and scientific socialism. It is against capitalism. It believes capitalism is the root cause of the rising cost of living, inflation, and misery of the people in the BPL category. They believe that the youth of India is being victimised by the capitalistic economy.
- AISF also has specific demands like democratisation and reforms in education, democratic and political rights, jobs, better cultural, sports and other recreational facilities for the betterment of students in India.

All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO)

Founded on 28 December 1954, AIDSO is affiliated with the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist). The motto of AIDSO is to fight against injustice, oppression and exploitation and promote social transformation.

Objectives

- AIDSO is against anti-education policies of the central and the state governments.
- Establishment of a scientific, secular, democratic education system.
- In recent years, AIDSO has started a national movement against commercialisation of education, introduction of sex education at school level and the policy of Special Economic Zones.

Students' Federation of India (SFI)

SFI, an independent students' organization, was formed in 1970. A Socialist Organisation, SFI's slogan is "Independence, Democracy, and Socialism!" SFI believes that education is the only means to rid India of the shackles of regressive ideas.

Objectives

- The SFI strives towards the establishment of a progressive, democratic and egalitarian education system which will ensure social justice and intellectual self-reliance.
- SFI also aims at a universal and free public education system ensuring education for all.
- SFI stands for the advancement of India towards a socialistic pattern of society, ensuring social and economic equality and a life of dignity and prosperity to all.

The Delhi University Students Union (DUSU)

The DUSU is the umbrella students' union in the University of Delhi and includes most of the colleges and faculties of Delhi.

Objectives

- To promote a democratic outlook through social, cultural and intellectual development of all the students studying in Delhi University.
- To promote consciousness among the students about the current events so that they can contribute towards healthy students' movements and have a sense of service towards the people and duty towards the state.

Conclusion

Student Union members are in a very important position to bring about a change for the better, and through experience gained, lead India in the political capacity in the future. They must strive to remain as apolitical as feasible and work towards maintaining their ideology and achieving their objectives.