

# Debating was never my forte



Wordsmith:  
Daniel Berdichevsky

Kashish Minocha & Raveena Nayyar  
AIS Saket, XI

Daniel Berdichevsky, the Founder of World Scholar's Cup, a global platform that provides debating and writing opportunities to over 1000 school students, speaks about the organisation, childhood memories and passion for debating. Here are excerpts of an exclusive interview with the brilliant orator at AIS Saket on October 5.

**How did the World Scholar's Cup spread its wings?**

The program began in 2006-07 with 3

countries - USA, Korea and Singapore. Now, we have participants from over 40 countries and gradually reaching a great number of schools and students.

**How did the love for debating emerge?**

Debating and speaking were never my cup of tea. In fact, I learnt English by watching Star Trek and spoke like Spock and other characters for some time. In high school, I was a part of the academic decathlon in which 70% was Maths, Science, Literature etc. In simple words, boring. And the rest 30% was the interesting part that I never wanted to do which was giving speeches and being in-

...Says the celebrated speaker who hones debating and oratory skills of students

terviewed. During my first interview, I was told that I shook hands like a girl! Then came the turning point, I left Decathlon and took up journalism. Call it a coincidence or an irony; I had to interview the decathlon team for the school newspaper! That is what changed my mindset. I turned back to decathlon and then the love for debating came about.

**Who is your favourite speaker?**

No one in particular, but my all-time favourite speech was delivered by Obama in 2008 when he lost to Hillary Clinton. We were all silent on seeing Obama lose. It seemed as if he had swallowed his defeat. And this was the first time he ever shared his motto 'Yes, we Can'. He just captivated us with it!

**Share one mischief from your childhood days with us.**

Just one? Well, in my decathlon days, all of us wanted to study harder. We decided

to get a master key to the school, so that we could stay up late in the school. Somehow, we caught hold of a non-master key and an engineering friend of ours figured out the right pattern. By the end of all this, the walls of our room were full of diagrams of keys. At 2 am, we were in the school all by ourselves. My friend could sense the cops coming, and out of fright he switched off the flashlights of the school. The cops noticed it and arrived. Our coach was called at 3 am He convinced the cops that we were good students. The incident still has me laughing my heart out.

**If given a day off from speaking, how would you spend it?**

I would spend it sleeping or go hiking to the Pacific Northwest with my cute Pomeranian puppy. I would love to be by myself in a quiet place. [GT](#)

Turn to Page 11 for a report on Daniel's workshop at AIS Saket

Amity Institute  
for Competitive  
Examinations

Presents

Brainleaks-57

FOR CLASS XI-XII

When solutes are taken in by the guard cells from the neighbouring epidermal cells

- Osmotic potential of the guard cell is lowered while its water potential increases
- Both osmotic potential and water potential of guard cell increase
- Osmotic potential of the guard cell increases while its water potential is lowered
- Both osmotic potential and water potential of guard cells are lowered

Last Date:  
Nov 10, 2012

3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans: Brainleaks 55: (c) 5.4 Mev

Name:.....

Class:.....

School:.....

Send your answer to The Global Times,  
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## SCHOLASTIC ALERTS

**Institute:** Medical Colleges approved by the Medical Council of India and Dental Colleges approved by Dental Council of India  
**Eligibility:** NEET 2013 (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test 2013)  
**Course:** MBBS/BDS  
**Application Forms:** Dec 1, 2012  
**Last Date:** Refer to website  
**Examination:** May 5, 2013  
**Website:** [www.mciindia.org](http://www.mciindia.org)

**Institute:** NITs, IITs, DTU, Delhi and other CFTIs  
**Eligibility:** JEE (Main-Offline and Online) and (Advance -Offline)  
**Course:** BE/BTech, B Arch/B Planning  
**Application Form:** Bulletin to be published shortly  
**Last Date:** Bulletin to be published  
**Examination Date:** Offline JEE (Main)- Apr 7, 2013. Online JEE (Main) thereafter in Apr, 2013.  
**Website:** [www.cbse.nic.in/JEE\\_Main\\_2013\\_Press\\_Release\\_2012.pdf](http://www.cbse.nic.in/JEE_Main_2013_Press_Release_2012.pdf)

## AIPMT is now NEET

The Medical Council of India (MCI) and Dental Council of India (DCI) have notified that CBSE would be conducting the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) for admissions to MBBS and BDS Course for 2013 -14 on May 5, 2013. The admission to MBBS and BDS Courses in the institutions approved by the MCI and DCI are subjected to merit position in the NEET (Under-Graduate), 2013. The syllabus for this examination as notified by the MCI is available on the website [www.mciindia.org](http://www.mciindia.org).

Source: [www.aipmt.nic.in/aipmt/Docs/PressRelease.pdf](http://www.aipmt.nic.in/aipmt/Docs/PressRelease.pdf)

Taruna Barthwal, ACCGC, Career Counsellor & Resource Coordinator

# Bringing world to classroom

Students of AGBS provide you an insight into a classroom lecture of their institute

Yola Singh & Sarthak Sharma  
Amity Global Business School

**Subject:** Business Communication  
**Mode of study:** Case studies  
**Objective:** Creating successful global managers who understand the approach to work with different cultures

The interesting and invigorating session on Business Communication by faculty Aparajita Dasgupta held on September 14, 2012 dealt with inter-culture communication.

### Time for business

The lecture, based on the principle of "5 dimensions" devised by a Dutch researcher in Organisational Studies called Hofstede, compared the business cultures of South Korea, Japan and Italy vis a vis India. The five dimensions include

Pic: Nishant Aggarwal, AGBS



power distance, individual vs collectivism, masculinity vs femininity, uncertainty avoidance and long term orientation. The faculty exemplified long term orientation by comparing the cultures of India and Japan. While India

often has long term goals in mind in whatever they undertake, the Japanese believe that they make up each moment in history, which explains why they invest heavily in R&D even during the times of economic crisis. In another ex-

ample, similarities were drawn between India and S. Korea, Japan and Italy in terms of power distance, as the three countries highly respect hierarchy.

### Case studies

Further in the class, discussions were held on how Japan, Italy and South Korea, all with a major corporate presence in India have brought along their cultural dimensions to the country. For instance, S Korean brand LG and Japanese brand Suzuki, have displayed long term commitment to the Indian market by investing here for a long period of time. LG had its own strategy, one of them being the maximisation of employee motivation through a commendable incentive system. Italian brand Fiat had also tied up with India's oldest company Tata for distribution and servicing of its vehicles. [GT](#)

# Making leaflets

Lekha Rani Singh, Faculty  
Amity Instt. of Corporate Comm.

To evolve the creative talent of students, a leaflet making inter-department competition was organised by Amity Institute of Corporate Communication (AICC) on October 18, 2012 at Amity University, Noida. The members of the jury comprised Prashant R Chauhan, Asst. Prof., Amity Instt of Social Sciences (AISS), Sanjyot Patil, Asst. Prof., Amity School of Design (ASD) and Dr Indu Rampal, Asst. Prof., AICC. The competition was based on varied themes such as Amity University as a

Brand, Personality Development, Soft Skills, Grand Prix 'Formula 1 Racing', Culture of India, etc. The students were evaluated on factors such as creativity, content and presentation.

Following the welcome address by Ruchi Tandon, Faculty, AICC, the students gave an excellent presentation. Capt HA Arfi, Director, AICC and Amity Instt of English Studies & Research spoke with enthusiasm about the presentations. Meanwhile, Sumitra Singh, Faculty, AICC conducted a short drill followed by an excellent motivational speech, which further boosted the morale of the participants. Aparajita Singh, Asst. Prof., ASD, spoke



on how students can showcase their creative geniuses on paper when they design a leaflet. The first prize was bagged by Sheril Sharma and Surbhi Jaggi, Amity Instt. of Information Tech-

nology (AIIT), while the second prize was won by Ankita Jain, AIIT and Atif Ali Khan, Chiku Aggarwal, Amity School of Engineering & Technology won the third prize. [GT](#)