At the Reunion and AGM of the Alumnae Association of Stella Maris College on Saturday 29 September 2018, **Dr. Udaya Mahadevan was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award.**



The Department of Social Work introduced the awardee and honoured her:

On behalf of the Dept. of Social Work it is an honour and privilege to introduce and read to you, the achievements of an outstanding alumna of the Dept. of Social Work, Dr. Udaya Mahadevan, Retired Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Social Work, Loyola College Chennai.

Dr Udaya belonged to the 1973-1975 batch and completed her Postgraduate degree in MA in Social Work in the academic year 1974-1975.

Subsequently she received her Doctoral Degree at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) Bangalore, which was supported by the Faculty Development Programme, a fellowship offered to teachers by the University Grants Commission.

She joined Loyola College Chennai, as a faculty member of the department of Social Work in the year 1977. During her tenure she served as faculty coordinator of the Centre for Women Studies and the Centre for Social Inclusion and Dalit Studies.

A recipient of several prestigious awards, Dr. Udaya gained due recognition even as a young teacher when she won an award from the Indian Society of Psychiatric Social Work for her paper on Community Mental Health presented at the National Conference at Bangalore.

Her other awards include:

1. The Rotary Vocational Excellence Award
2. The Lions International Scroll of Honour
3. The Loyola College Good Samaritan Award
4. The Best Social Worker award from the Tamil Nadu Government's Dr. MGR Medical University
5. Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Department of Social Work, Stella Maris College
6. The best Social Worker award from the Association of Differently abled Women,
7. Tamil Nadu
8. The prestigious Sri Gnanandha Award for excellent contribution of Women in Social Work, awarded by the late Dr. Shri. Abdul Kalam

In the field of academics she was known to be an excellent teacher, sound in knowledge and compassionate about teaching. She was awarded the Professor Emeritus fellowship by the University Grants Commission 2011-2014.

Dr. Udaya was invited by the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Youth Development Government of India to serve as Adjunct Professor in the department of Social Work (2014-2016). Under her able leadership, the Department launched a unique project supported by UNICEF in promoting child rights

The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) rightly recognised her as an Eminent Social Scientist as part of their Collegium comprising of 250 Social Scientists in the country for the year 2016- 2017.

As a keen researcher, Dr. Udaya has been contributing towards the frontiers of Social Action Research. In this connection she has been awarded the Dr. Yedanapalli Research award, the Dr. TN Ananthakrishnan commemoration award and the Loyola College Research fellowship award.

As a practitioner, Dr. Udaya Mahadevan has supported several NGOs, particularly Jeevodaya Hospice for Cancer patients and several Social work teaching Institutions in enhancing the teaching and practice of Professional Social Work.

A devoted Social Work Educator, an ardent field Practitioner and a keen Social Researcher with nearly 40 years of rich and meaningful experience, Dr. Udaya has quietly and steadily contributed to the progress of social work education and societal development. Rarely do we find the combination of an educator, practitioner and researcher in one person. Such are her abilities.

It is fitting that a person of such eminence be honoured by her Alma Mater with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Stella Maris College is proud of you, Dr. Udaya! Today we want to congratulate and wish you many more accomplishments, God's blessings and constant protection over you.