

the umbrella of the Osmania University. Once GMCGA was formally incorporated in 2005, all subsequent fund-raising and distributions occurred through the GMCGA.

During the first three years of the ad hoc/standing committee, close to three quarters of a million dollars were raised, thanks to efforts of the fund raising committee (headed by Kumar Ramiseti and Sarala Rao, who raised approximately \$500,000) with generous contributions from benefactors like Manchikanti Laxmaiah who donated approximately \$125,000, Mohan Reddy and Govind Rao, who donated over \$25,000, and from many generous platinum, gold and silver sponsors (please see the complete list of donors in this issue).

In 2004, conversations were held for collaboration with the class of 1967 to join forces with the ad hoc committee to help with the creation of the AEC. This effort bore fruit with the help of Gandhiji Yalamanchili, a leading alumnus of the 1967 batch of GMC. The class contributed substantially to AEC construction, improvements in the college library and e-library in the AEC, which is now named after the class.

The architect's initial cost-estimate for a 3-story building was \$250,000. However, as is the case with most such undertakings, cost overruns were significant, partly due to the construction-based requirement of a cellar. Fortunately, this came to be a welcome addition, as it provided extra space in the AEC for exhibits, catering, and small gatherings. When it was finally completed, the total cost of building GMC-AEC reached approximately \$750,000.

After working as an informal group for a few years, Gandhi Medical College Global Alliance (GMCGA) became a formal entity in 2006 after its first official meeting in Chicago in 2006. It was incorporated (with considerable help from its leading alumni including Manchikanti Laxmaiah), in the state of Delaware, USA, as a tax-exempt organization. A reorganization of its structure at that meeting resulted in elimination of the CEO position.

All this time, GMCGA had worked in close collaboration with Gandhi Medical College Alumni Association in construction of the Alumni Education Center, which was successfully completed and inaugurated on January 5, 2006; one year after the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

