

**Dr. Prakash C. Sarangi**

Ph.D. (Rochester)  
Former Vice-Chancellor  
*Ravenshaw University, Cuttack*  
Former Professor of Political Science  
*University of Hyderabad India*

215 Dharma Vihar  
Khandagiri  
Bhubaneswar  
Odisha 751030

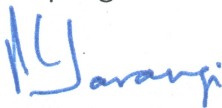
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Ravenshaw has been my dream institution. She was my *alma mater* and my happy abode for a number of years. She gave me the opportunity to learn and progress in life. The grand colonial red bricked structure and beautiful lawns undoubtedly attracted me. But beyond the physical environment, the friendly ambience, healthy academic competition and towering personalities as teachers had a lasting impression on my career. Later in life, I got a rare chance to serve Ravenshaw in her new incarnation as a University. My endeavor was to facilitate a stable transition in a rapidly transforming academic environment. It was indeed a great learning experience for me.

Ravenshaw is currently in an important cross-road in her eventful sesquicentennial journey. The emerging knowledge systems and new educational technologies are radically transforming the academic space called the University. The needs of the stakeholders, including those of the students and teachers, are qualitatively different today. The outcomes expected from an institution are no longer confined to teaching-learning process. Knowledge generation, dissemination and application are inseparable parts of any academic enterprise. Ravenshaw needs to create a *niche* for herself among the ever expanding thousand-plus universities in India.

I am pretty sure that, given Ravenshaw's legendary stature, resilient growth and capacity to nurture talent, she would be in a position to face all the new challenges and emerge as a new powerhouse of knowledge for generations to come. It is time for all Ravenshavians to come forward and support their *alma mater* to progress as a research university.

  
(Prakash C. Sarangi)