

SCIE NEWSLETTER



SCIE

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Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE) is the central department of Symbiosis created solely for designing and managing all internationalisation endeavours for the university. This department takes care of *all things international*: from branding Symbiosis globally, promoting programs and recruiting international students, creating a *home away from home* for all international students studying in Pune, nurturing the spirit of multicultural inclusion and diversity at all campuses, offering leadership opportunities through the vibrant International Student Council to working with carefully selected, like minded international partner universities, designing joint academic collaborations, and ensuring internationalisation@home to all staff and students across the university.



SIU

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Symbiosis International University (SIU) was envisioned by Founder **Prof. (Dr.) S. B. Mujumdar** with an aim to *promote international understanding through quality education*. One of its main objectives is to develop students who not only work towards growth in their professional careers and personal lives, but also consider themselves as ambassadors for living (and evangelising) the philosophy of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*', 'the world is one family'.

RANKINGS & ACCREDITATION



International Collaborations:



Prof. Dr. Frank Morelli (Professor of Information Systems - Management & IT, Faculty of Business) and Dr. Rebecca Bulander (Professor of Quantitative Methods and Business Administration, Faculty of Engineering) from Pforzheim University, Germany visited Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology (SCIT) from 2-6 February.





Ms Manasi Phatak visited Symbiosis Nagpur campus to welcome a delegation of 12 Ambassadors from different African countries on 6th February.



Prof. Ishibashi from Chiba University Japan, conducted a session for the students of SCON on "Transitional care competencies common to Nursing, social workers and Physical therapists".



10 students from Chiba University, Japan, along with 2 faculty members, came to SIU under the GRIP program for a 10-day SIP. The SIP was facilitated by SCIE along with support from Symbiosis Community Outreach Programme and Extension (SCOPE) and Symbiosis Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability (SCCS).



80 students from Jousai University, Japan, along with 4 faculty came for a 1-week SIP from 22 to 28 Feb 2026. The SIP was facilitated by SCIE along with support from Symbiosis College of Nursing (SCON).



17 students from Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (SIBM) - Nagpur, Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies (SIMS), SIBM - Noida, Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies (SCMS) - Noida went to Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand for a Study tour for 1 week.



10 students from Symbiosis Institute of Technology (SIT) - Pune, Civil Engineering visited SIU Dubai for the Study in Dubai, Civil study tour.



Symbiosis International (Deemed University) had the privilege of hosting a delegation from **University of Waikato, New Zealand** comprising **Prof. Neil Quigley, Vice-Chancellor, and Mrs. Sharon Calvert, Assistant Vice-Chancellor – International, Engagement and Partnerships**. The delegation met with Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman, Vice Chancellor, SIU, along with Deans from various faculties, to explore potential areas for academic and institutional collaboration. The interaction also involved Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Dean – Faculty of Law, Dr. Jyoti Chandiramani, Dean – Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, Dr. Abhijit Chirputkar, Dean – Faculty of Management, Dr. Dhanya Pramod, Dean – Faculty of Computer Studies, Dr. Ruchi Kher Jaggi, Dean – Faculty of Media & Communication, Dr. Neeta Inamdar, Dean – Faculty of Education; and Dr. Anupama S. Kotur, Head – International Academic Programs, SCIE, Dr. Anindita Roy, Head- Internationalization and Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, SIT, Ms. Sonali Hardikar, Executive, SCIE and Ms. Savani Kulkarni, Coordinator, SCIE to explore academic collaboration. Detailed discussions were also held on medical, nursing, and pharmacy programmes, and potential partnerships in health economics, family physician training, healthcare data analytics, and community-based health initiatives, in the presence of Dr. V. K. Sashindran, Dean, Symbiosis Medical College for Women (SMCW) & Symbiosis University Hospital and Research Centre (SUHRC), Dr. Prasad Bhanap, MS, SMCW & SUHRC, Dr. Sonopant Joshi, Director, SCON, Dr. Sarang Barbind, Faculty-in-Charge, SMCW & SUHRC, and SCIE team.

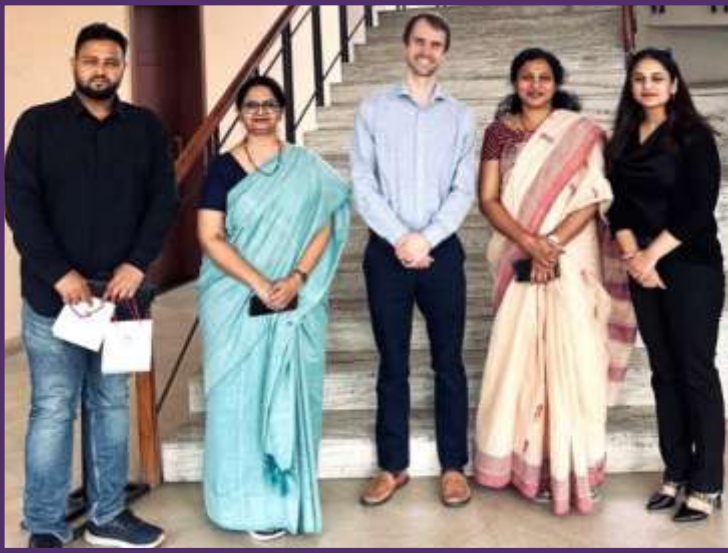


Symbiosis International (Deemed University) was honoured to host a delegation from the German Research Foundation (DFG) Office India and the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service). The delegation comprised **Dr. Franziska Langer**, Director, German Research Foundation (DFG) Office India; **Dr. Vaibhav Agarwal**, Deputy Director, German Research Foundation (DFG) Office India; **Ms. Girija Joshi**, Regional Officer – Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa & Madhya Pradesh, DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), Information Point Pune; and **Dr. Amisha Jain**, Head of Regional Office – India & South Asia (Coordinator South East Asia), University of Köln. Ms. Elizabeth led an in-depth discussion on the aims and scope of potential collaborations under DFG and DAAD initiatives. The meeting was presided over by **Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman**, Vice Chancellor, SIU, and attended by **Dr. Ravindran Gobinath**, Director – **Symbiosis Centre for Research and Innovation (SCRI)**; **Dr. Prasoom Dwivedi**, Head, Research Projects & Funding, SCRI; **Dr. Sanjay Pohekar**, Head, Research Programmes, SCRI; **Dr. Yogesh Patil**, Head Research Publications, SCRI; **Dr. Anupama S. Kotur**, Head – International Academic Programs, SCIE; **Dr. Sophia Gaikwad**, Head – **Symbiosis Teaching Learning Resource Centre (STLRC)**, SIU; **Dr. Manik Dhanorkar**, Head, **Symbiosis Centre for Waste Resource Management (SCWRM)**; **Dr. Ravindra Bulakhe**, Head, **Symbiosis Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (SCNN)**; **Dr. Prakash Rao**, Head, and **Dr. Omprakash Sharma**, Deputy Head, **Symbiosis Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability (SCCS)**; **Dr. Aradhana Gandhi**, Head, **Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Sciences (SCBS)**; **Dr. Sudha Arlikatti**, Research Professor and Head, **Symbiosis Centre for Urban Studies (SCUS)**; **Dr. Anindita Roy**, Head – Internationalization and Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, **SIT**; **Mr. Akshay Lahade**, Senior Coordinator, SCIE; and **Ms. Savani Kulkarni**, Coordinator, SCIE.



SIU was honoured to host a delegation from **University of New Mexico**. The delegation included **Dr. Matthew A. Witenstein**, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy, & Co-Program Coordinator, Educational Leadership Program, Department of Teacher Education, Educational Leadership and Policy, University of New Mexico. The discussions were held with **Dr. Neeta Inamdar**, Advisor to Symbiosis Centre for European Studies (SCES), **Research Professor at the Symbiosis Centre for Higher Education Research and Policy Advocacy (SCHERPA)**, **Dean of the Faculty of Education at Symbiosis International (Deemed University)** and **Dr. Anupama S. Kotur**, Head – International Academic Programs, SCIE. The interaction focused on exploring potential areas of collaboration between the University of New Mexico and SIU,

including dual degree programmes, student and faculty mobility, exchange initiatives, and research collaborations. The discussions also examined strategic approaches to further strengthen internationalisation initiatives and foster sustainable global academic partnerships.



SIU was pleased to host delegates from **University of Washington in St. Louis Missouri, United States**. The delegation included **Mr. Luke Bretscher**, Assistant Dean and Director of Enrollment at Washington University in St. Louis, and **Mr. Sanchit Panwar, Senior Manager, GradRight Inc.** The discussions were held with Dr. Neeta Inamdar, Dr Sophia Gaikwad, Head - STLRC and Dr. Anupama S. Kotur, Head – International Academic Programs, SCIE. The interaction centred on identifying and advancing potential avenues of collaboration between the University of Washington in St. Louis and SIU. Key areas of discussion included the development of pathway programmes, enhancement of student and faculty mobility, expansion of exchange initiatives, and the joint research collaborations. The discussions further

examined strategic frameworks aimed at enhancing internationalisation initiatives and fostering sustainable, long-term global academic partnerships.



SIU was pleased to host delegation from **Deakin University, Australia** on 17th February.

The delegation involved **Ms. Irfa Javed**, Manager, Partnerships (South Asia), Deakin University, Australia and **Mr. Kirit Poonia**, Assistant Manager – International Marketing & Recruitment (South Asia), Deakin University, Australia. They visited **SIT- Pune**, where the meeting was held with Dr. Deepali Vora, Deputy Director Academics, SIT-Pune, Dr. Nilima Zade, Assistant Professor, SIT- Pune, Dr. Sashikala Mishra, HoD, CSE, SIT- Pune, Ms. Sonali Hardikar, Executive, SCIE and Ms. Savani Kulkarni, Coordinator, SCIE

where they focussed on discussing dual degree admissions planning, addressing faculty and student challenges, and exploring the idea of a joint webinar to guide prospective students. Student interaction session was also conducted providing insights on collaboration programs & Scholarship and addressing queries.

The team subsequently visited **SCMS–Pune** for a meeting with Dr. Adya Sharma, Professor and Director, SCMS, Pune and Dr. Anupama Kotur, where discussions centred on Global BBA admissions and strategies to streamline student progression to partner universities. A dedicated student engagement session followed, with queries comprehensively addressed by both teams reaffirmed the shared commitment to strengthening academic collaboration and expanding global learning opportunities.

On 18th Feb, the team visited **Symbiosis School of Liberal Arts (SSLA)**, where they met Dr. Shweta Sinha Deshpande, Director & Associate Professor, SSLA- Pune & team along with Dr. Afshan Majid, Deputy Director & Assistant Professor & Dr. Anupama Kotur. The discussion reiterated a shared commitment to enhancing academic collaboration and expanding global learning opportunities for students. The visit reaffirmed the strong partnership between SIU and Deakin University, fostering continued internationalisation and academic excellence.



SIU was pleased to host delegates from **University of Exeter Business School, United Kingdom**, for an academic engagement and interaction. The delegation included **Prof. Grzegorz Trojanowski**, Professor of Finance, University of Exeter, **Ms. Divya Shinde**, Recruitment Advisor, University of Exeter, and **Ms. Priyancee Singh**, Marketing Executive, Visibility & Student Engagement, **Edwise International**. During the visit at Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies (SCMS) Pune, Prof. Grzegorz delivered an interactive session on corporate finance, corporate governance, and ESG research, offering valuable global academic insights.

The visit included a formal meeting with Dr. Adya Sharma, Professor & Director, SCMS Pune; Dr. Sonica Rautela, Associate Professor, SCMS Pune; Dr. Anupama S. Kotur and Ms. Savani Kulkarni from SCIE. The discussion focused on exploring potential academic collaborations and future institutional engagement.



SIU was delighted to welcome a delegation from **Maynooth University, Ireland**, for their official visit to **Symbiosis Centre for Media and Communication (SCMC)**, Pune. The delegation involved **Dr. Sarah Arnold**, Associate Professor and Head of Media Studies, Maynooth University, **Dr. Sreeram Gopalsrishnan**, Director & Professor, SCMC and **Dr. Anupama Kotur**, Head, International Academic Programs, SCIE.

The meeting featured an engaging and forward-looking discussion exploring potential avenues for academic collaboration, particularly in media studies and interdisciplinary programs. Both institutions expressed keen interest in developing meaningful partnerships that foster global exposure, collaborative learning, and innovative academic initiatives.

Dr. Sarah also engaged in a hybrid interaction session under the theme "From Final Girls to Monstrous Mothers: Women and the Horror film through the Ages?". The session brought together participants both in person and virtually, fostering an inclusive and dynamic academic exchange.

Symbiosis looks forward to working closely with Maynooth University to create impactful opportunities that empower students to learn, create, and thrive in a globally connected environment.

Events and Student Relations:



The **Symbiosis International Students' Council elections for the academic year 2026-27** were conducted on 28th February, 2026 across four campuses: S.B. Road, Vimannagar, Lavale Hill Base, and Hinjewadi. Only foreign national students from Symbiosis institutes were eligible to contest, whereas foreign nationals (non-Symbiosis) and NRIs were nominated by Dr. Prof. S.B. Mujumdar and Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar, respectively. These candidates were selected after an interview process.

The election aimed to encourage student participation in governance while providing an insight into the democratic election process and the importance of voting. Candidates campaigned both online and offline, presenting their ideas and objectives. Students were allowed to cast their votes after verifying their identity with a valid college ID and Residence Permit (RP).

The 15-member Symbiosis International Students' Council will be formed by candidates from Symbiosis who received the highest votes during elections along with the non-Symbiosis candidates and NRIs, who came in through nominations. This new Council will take part in the Oath Taking ceremony formally taking on their roles and responsibilities in the Council 2026-27. The council assists SCIE in organising events, workshops, and initiatives for international students in Pune.





SCIE in association with SkillsMetrix conducted a 3-day Generative AI workshop from 19-21 February, which helped students to engage with AI tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, Grammarly, Google Scholar, Google Docs, Canva, LM Studio. It taught them to access and use powerful AI tools ethically, improve academic writing with voice-to-text, grammar correction and multilingual workflows as well as master literature search, paper access and data analysis techniques.



At Symbiosis, our foreign national students are at the heart of our vibrant campus culture. To ensure every student feels heard and supported, the SCIE Student Relations team recently hosted meetings across all campuses. Whether meeting in person or joining via Zoom, students had the opportunity to discuss their experiences and offer ideas for improvement. These meetings are part of SCIE's ongoing commitment to building stronger bonds within our student fraternity. From resolving day-to-day doubts to implementing student-led suggestions, we are working together to make Symbiosis a true home away from home.

SCES:



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida, Mr. Akshay Lahade, SCES, Mr. Bhanu Sood, Senior Officer, SCIE Noida, Ms. Shweta Garg, Supervisor, SCIE Noida along with Ms. Pehal Singhvi, General Secretary, SCES Student Think Tank organised an Orientation Session for the new members of the SCES Student Think Tank.



Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Noida Campus, welcomed the Delegation of the European Union to India and Euraxess India along with diplomats and officials from the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Italy, France, Germany, Poland, Slovenia, and Switzerland for the “European Union Research & Innovation Information Day” on 12th February. The event highlighted EU–India collaboration in Research & Innovation, with a special focus on Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, research funding, mobility, and academic partnership opportunities.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida represented SIU at the **India-Spain Conference on Higher Education** graced by the presence of **Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education, Government of India** and **H.E. Juan Antonio March Pujol, Ambassador of Spain to India** at New Delhi on 19 & 20th February

SCIE - Noida:



Ms. Shweta Garg, Supervisor, SCIE Noida promoted Symbiosis International University, Dubai programmes at Dubai Unifest 2026, Chandigarh



Ms. Sonali Hardikar and Mr. Bhanu Sood promoted Symbiosis International University, Dubai programmes at Affairs MBA EXPO, Ahmedabad.





Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida and Ms. Shweta Garg, Supervisor, SCIE Noida attended the **Networking Dinner Reception on the occasion of the Universities Canada Delegation visit to India 2026 at Canada House, New Delhi.**



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida attended the **Reception of Higher Education Leaders in India and the UK by the PIE at the VIPIE India Chapter, New Delhi.** The event was graced by **Shri. Sanjeet Singh, Senior Advisor, Niti Aayog.**



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida participated in the round table discussion on global education and international collaboration by The PIE and Arden University, UK.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur and Ms. Shweta Garg, SCIE Noida along with Dr. Nidhi Phutela, Director, SCMS – Noida explored potential collaboration avenues with Ms. Ekaterina Lazareva, Third Secretary (Culture, Education & Sports), Embassy of the Russian Federation and Dr. Popova Lyudmila Vladimirovna from Orel State University, Russia and Mr Shubham Gupta from FICCI.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur along with Dr. Nidhi Phutela meet with alumni of Symbiosis Centre for Management and Human Resource Development (SCMHRD), Mr. Pavi Gupta, AI expert from USA.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur and Ms. Shweta Garg, SCIE Noida along with Ms. Rupali Chaudhary, Head - International Student Relations & Events, and Mr. Michael Mutie Otieno, a student from Kenya and the Vice President of the Symbiosis International Students' Council meet with Ms. Rachel Ngetich, Education Attache & Mr. Jared B. Mayieka, Trade Counsellor at Kenya High Commission, New Delhi to explore potential collaboration.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur participated in the two-day APAIE Capacity Building workshop at SGT University, Gurugram and also facilitated the workshop on “Unpacking Internationalisation at Home- India's key strategic priority in higher education internationalisation”



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida, along with Prof. (Dr.) C. J. Rawandale, Director, SLS - Noida, met with Dean Joshua Teitelbaum and Ms. Jessica Brum, Assistant Director of Graduate Admissions at Georgetown Law, Washington, DC, to explore new avenues for academic collaboration at SIU, Noida Campus.



Mr. Bhanu Sood, Senior Officer, SCIE Noida, engaged in a series of meetings to explore potential collaborations with key policymakers and leaders during the AI Impact Summit 2026, held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi such as Dr. Jeevan B, IAS, Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Innovation, Incubation and Startups (DIIS), Ms. Suneeta Verma, Scientist G and Head, R&D, Ministry of Electronics, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Scientist-E, Start-ups, DST, Shri Vijay Sharma, Deputy Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh, Shri. Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS, Chief Secretary, Maharashtra, Dr. Sibashisa Das, Scientist D, International Cooperation, DST, GoI, Dr. V Ramesh, Scientist E, Anusandhan National Research Foundation, GoI, Dr. Nidhi Trivedi, Ecosystem Manager – Gujarat, Digital India Bhashini Division, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.



Mr. Bhanu Sood, Senior Officer, SCIE Noida, held meetings to explore potential collaborations with leading academic and industry experts during the AI Impact Summit 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. His interactions included Dr. Shreedhar Dube, Head-Sales & Proposal, IIT Bombay, Dr. Aravind Reddy, Principal Project Scientist, IIT Madras, Ms. Swati, PRO, Wipro (Alumni Symbiosis Pune), Prof. James Brusey, Professor of Computer Science, Coventry University, and Dr. Debbie Meharg, Head of Computing Science, University of Aberdeen.



Mr. Bhanu Sood met with **Dr. Chell A. Roberts, Associate Provost, Professional and Continuing Education, University of San Diego**; **Dr. Daniel G. Linzell, Dean of Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute**; and **Dr. Michael Mazzeo, Dean, Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis**, to explore new avenues for academic collaboration. The meetings were held during the **Global Higher Education Conclave, ShiftED 2026**, at Global Higher Education Conclave, Shifted 2026, New Delhi.



Mr. Bhanu Sood, SCIE Noida, engaged in discussions to explore new avenues for collaboration with **Shri. Ashish Sood, Minister of Education and Urban Development, Government of NCT of Delhi**; **Mr. Patrick J. Morrison, Director, International Office, University of South Dakota**; and **Dr. Thomas Hill, Assistant Dean – Recruitment & Admissions, Rutgers Business School** at the **Global Higher Education Conclave, ShiftED 2026**, New Delhi.



Ms. Shweta Garg, SCIE Noida engaged in discussions to explore new avenues for collaboration with **Dr. Elena Gaura, Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor Research, Coventry University, UK**, **Ms. Jitka Rehakova, Strategic Partnership & Transformation Lead at Financial Health Company**, **Mr. Paul Hubbard, AI. Masked Economist, Australian Government Department of Finance, The Australian National University** and **Ms. Velona from Kenya** at the **AI Impact Summit 2026** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.



Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, SCIE, Noida, Mr Bhanu Sood, Senior Officer SCIE, Ms. Shweta Garg, Supervisor, SCIE Noida hosted **Ms. Carole Deering, Senior MSc Recruitment & Admissions Manager – South Asia, UCD Smurfit Graduate Business School** at SIU, Noida Campus.

