

# SCIE NEWSLETTER



## SCIE

॥वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

**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

॥वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

**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





## INDIA'S FIRST-EVER ROTARY PEACE CENTER

We are delighted to share a momentous achievement for **Symbiosis International University (SIU)** – **India's first-ever Rotary Peace Center** has been established at our university! SIU has been chosen as the **9th Rotary Peace Centre globally, (First in India)** marking a significant milestone in our commitment to fostering **positive peace and global understanding**.

After a rigorous selection process, The Rotary Foundation Trustees recognized SIU's excellence in academic programs, faculty expertise, student support systems, and our dedication to promoting peace and conflict resolution.

### Key Highlights:

- **First Rotary Peace Center in India**
- **9th Rotary Peace Center globally**
- **Applications open in February 2026**
- **First cohort begins in 2027**

We commend and express our heartfelt gratitude to **Dr. Anita Patankar**, Director – SCIE, **Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar**, Pro Chancellor, SIU, and all Directors, Deans, Faculty, and Staff Members whose efforts and commitment have made this achievement possible.

This marks a new chapter for SIU as we contribute to the development of future peace leaders worldwide!





SCIE organised a Delhi tour for the Symbiosis International Students' Council from 2nd – 7th February, 2025. The current Symbiosis International Students' Council consists of 15 members from Asian and African countries. This tour was to provide these students with a comprehensive understanding of India's governance system, history, and rich culture.

The students visited the Museum on Indian Prime Ministers – Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, Parliament, India Gate, Taj Mahal in Agra – a UNESCO World Heritage site, Raj Ghat, Lajpat nagar market, Arunachal Bhawan and New Maharashtra Sadan to explore and experience India historically, politically, culturally and through its delicious cuisine.

The students had the privilege of an interactive session with **Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla** and met **Hon'ble Member of Parliament (MP)** from Pune, Maharashtra – **Shri Murlidhar Mohol**. They also had a unique opportunity to witness a Parliamentary session live, which featured a discussion by the **Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi**. These experiences provided them the chance to view the functioning and governance of the 'World's Largest Democracy' firsthand!

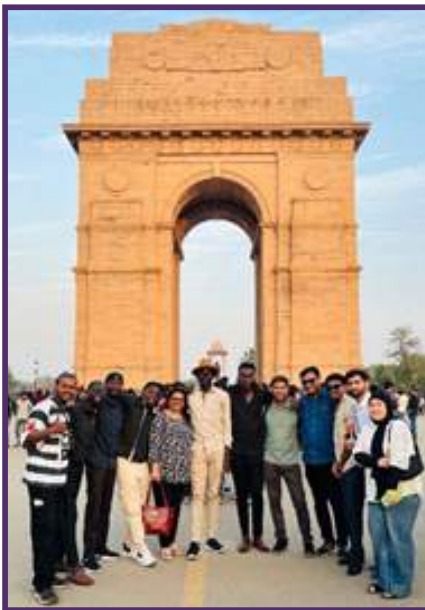
**Symbiosis International Students' Council members** in front of and inside the political powerhouse of India, The Indian Parliament, during their Delhi tour, in February 2025.







Meeting with  
the Hon'ble  
Speaker of  
the Lok Sabha,  
Shri Om Birla



Witnessing the majestic  
aura of India Gate,  
a war memorial



Council members visited Taj Mahal, a renowned tourist  
attraction in Agra, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site

**Dr. Anupama Kotur**,  
Head - International  
Academic Programs,  
SCIE attended a  
Networking Dinner with  
**Ms. Petra Olschowski**,  
Minister of Science,  
Research, Baden-  
Württemberg, Germany  
and had a brief  
discussion focussed on  
building stronger  
academic and cultural  
connections between  
India and Germany.



**Dr. Anupama Kotur**  
attended a  
Networking  
Reception between  
Baden-Württemberg  
and Maharashtra,  
where she met  
**Dr. Nicole  
Hoffmeister-Kraut**,  
Minister of Economic  
Affairs, Labour and  
Tourism, Baden-  
Württemberg,  
Germany



**Symbiosis Institute of Technology (SIT)** hosted a distinguished delegation from the **U.S. Consulate**. The delegation, led by **Consul General Mike Hankey**, included **Dr. Thomas Lograsso**, Head of Critical Minerals at Ames National Laboratory, along with esteemed academics from the University of Michigan and Michigan Technological University. The visit facilitated knowledge exchange, student engagement, and discussions on potential academic collaborations. The delegation also visited the Bajaj Research Center, followed by the Maker's Lab. A meeting with **Dr. Ketan Kotecha**, Dean- Faculty of Engineering, SIU and his team along with **Dr. Anupama Kotur**, Head - International Academic Programs, SCIE led to exploring collaborative opportunities with U.S. Universities. The engagement marked a significant step in strengthening Indo-U.S. academic and research partnerships.





### University officials from USA and France visited SIU. This delegation included:

1. Ms. Florence Lebois, Founder, Campus Globers, France
2. Ms. Dominique Bert, Consultant, CEFAM International Business School, France
3. Ms. Anne Faucett, Director of International Admission & Center for International Programs, St. Mary's University, USA
4. Ms. Blair Thomson, Senior International Officer, Director of Study Abroad, Office of Global Engagement, University of Mississippi, USA



This visit and meeting with **Ms. Manasi Phatak**, Head – International Mobility, SCIE was focused on discussing study abroad opportunities, such as semester or summer courses (with STEM track as well), tailored programs aligned with the academic and research interests of faculty, faculty exchange and customized faculty-led programs in partnerships with top universities and schools in Europe; themes ranging from sustainability and cultural heritage to global business strategies and creative industries were explored.

Dr. Anupama Kotur attended a roundtable hosted by Prof Michael Crow, President of Arizona State University, to discuss collaborative opportunities as well as explore the increased mobility of students from the United States to India.



A senior delegation from Aston University comprising Prof. Gurpreet Singh Jagpal, Chief Commercial Officer, Prof. Osama Khan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Ms. Saumya Agarwal, International Partnerships Development Manager visited SIU.

They met with senior SIU leadership, Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar - Pro Chancellor, SIU, Dr. R Raman- Vice Chancellor, along with Dr. M S Shejul, Registrar, Ms. Amruta Ruikar, Head - International Admissions & International Promotions, SCIE, Dr. Anupama Kotur and Ms. Sonali Hardikar, SCIE and discussed academic and research initiatives that span mutual areas of interest and proposals for new areas of collaboration including the way forward for Symbiosis-Aston Research Academy (SARA). Dr Anita Patankar, Director, SCIE and Executive Director, SIU Dubai joined in online mode.

The delegation also met directors of various institutes of SIU and discussed several aspects including support and arrangement for Pathway Program, Dual Master's program, PhD Programs, Research Collaborations Faculty engagement and Student placement assistance at Aston University.



Deakin University delegation comprising Ms. Ravneet Pawha, Vice President (Global Engagement) & CEO (South Asia) - Deakin University, Australia, Ms. Priyanka Singh, Executive Director - Deakin South Asia and Ms. Irfa Javed, Manager, Research Engagement (South Asia), along with Dr. Dhara Shah, Associate Professor, Human Resource Management, Faculty of Business and Law visited SIU. The visiting delegation met with Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar and Ms. Amruta Ruikar to discuss the way forward for the partnerships and also met with Dr. Shrirang Altekar, Director - SIBM, Dr. Madhura Bedarkar, Deputy Director - Administration, Dr. Deepika Pandita, Associate Professor, Dr. Anupama Kotur and Ms Sonali Hardikar, SCIE to discuss future strategy and objectives for Women Entrepreneurship Research Alliance (WERA) and Management Development Programs (MDPs) A Workshop with Symbiosis academics on Grant Funding and Collaboration opportunities was conducted by Dr. Dhara Shah







**Deakin University** delegation met **Dr. Nitin Khedkar**, Deputy Director – Administration and **Dr. Anindita Roy** Head- Internationalization Cell, both from SIT and other faculty members along with **Dr. Anupama Kotur** and **Ms Sonali Hardikar**, SCIE to progress the discussions regarding the dual degree and finalize the next steps.



Prof. Gregory Booth, Professor - Arts and Education, Anthropology, University of Auckland, New Zealand visited Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication (SIMC) to engage and interact with academics. He visited the Symbiosis Studios and delivered a lecture to faculty and discussed on the topic: Colonialism, Post-Colonialism, Globalisation, and The Indian Music Industry. He met Dr. Ruchi Kher Jaggi, Dean, Faculty of Media and Communication and her team, Mr. Lelith Daniel, Asst. Professor, SCOPE along with Dr. Anupama Kotur and Ms Sonali Hardikar, SCIE.







Dr. Angela Farrell, Assistant Dean International for the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Limerick visited SIU. She had fruitful discussions regarding collaboration opportunities with Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, Dean Faculty of Law and Director, Symbiosis Law School (SLS) Pune, and her team as well as Dr. Sreeram Gopalkrishnan, Director, Symbiosis Centre for Media & Communication (SCMC), Pune, Dr. Shweta Sinha Deshpande, Director, Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts (SSLA), Pune, Dr Vasudev Menon and other faculty members at SSLA. Dr. Anupama Kotur and Ms Sonali Hardikar represented SCIE.



Dr. Anupama Kotur and Ms Amruta Ruikar met Prof. John Lee, President of Kyundong University, Dr. Nur Alam, Dean of Kyundong University and Ms. Julia Jung, CEO & Managing Director, KUAC (Korean Universities Admission Centre) to discuss student exchange opportunities

## Student Programs:



SCIE conducted a **Study India Program** (Medical Elective) in association with **Symbiosis Medical College for Women (SMCW)** and **Symbiosis University Hospital and Research Centre (SUHRC)** from 1-28 Feb, 2025. The program consisted of shadowing with medical professionals at SUHRC, attending lectures at SMCW, and the non-medical electives at **Symbiosis Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (SCNN)**, **Symbiosis School of Visual Arts and Photography (SSVAP)** and **Symbiosis Institute of Design (SID)**. Cultural immersion activities were organised by SCIE such as Cultural Heritage Walk, interaction with the foreign students at SIU including buddy activities such as wearing Indian traditional attire, drawing henna designs, etc.







SCIE hosted 10 students with Prof. Tsujino from Chiba University, Japan for the 3rd Batch of GRIP- Study India Program. Through this program, students gained insights into the social structure of Indian society and visited various NGOs to understand their necessity, functions, and significance within the community. SCIE conducted this program jointly with Symbiosis Community Outreach Programme and Extension (SCOPE)







SCIE conducted Study India Program in association with Symbiosis College of Nursing (SCON) for 14 students and 3 faculty members from 3 Japanese Universities. Participants visited Public Hospital, Primary Healthcare Unit, Private hospital, Simulation lab as a part of the program. Along with academic visits and lectures students actively participated in the cultural activities and Yoga session.

