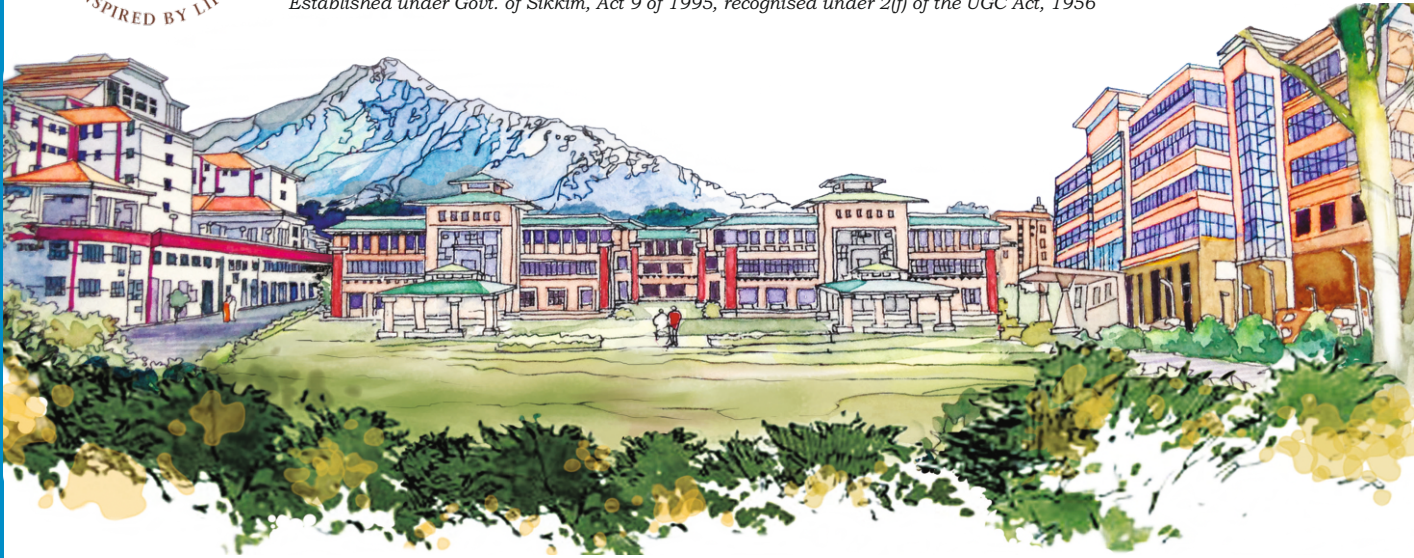




SMU SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

Established under Govt. of Sikkim, Act 9 of 1995, recognised under 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956



NEWSLETTER

MAY-JUNE 2024 VOL: 1 NO: 2



TADONG CAMPUS



MAJHITAR CAMPUS

EDITORIAL

A Celebration of Learning and Togetherness

Dear Readers,

We're thrilled with the enthusiastic response to our inaugural SMU newsletter! This publication embodies the spirit of learning and community that makes SMU special. Inside, you'll get a glimpse into the vibrant energy on campus, from academic triumphs and exciting events to student projects and groundbreaking faculty research. There's something for everyone to discover and celebrate.

From April to June this year, our Tadong and Majhitar campuses have been a hive of activity. From academic symposiums, guest lectures, ground breaking research activities to vibrant cultural festivals and thrilling sports events, our campuses have buzzed with energy and enthusiasm. While we aimed to capture the full spectrum of our academic, social and cultural life, this edition highlights just a selection of these experiences.

We are confident that you all will enjoy this May-June 2024 edition. We are committed to continuously improving and bringing the vibrant life at SMU to you through our newsletters.

Dive into the newsletter, explore its content, and share your thoughts! Your feedback is crucial as we shape this publication to reflect your interests and aspirations.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Let's celebrate the SMU spirit and the collective achievements of our community together!

Happy reading!

IN THE NEWS

Sikkim Manipal University launches newsletter

SE Report

GANGTOK, April 30: Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) unveiled its inaugural monthly newsletter today.

The newsletter was launched by Dr. Dilip Chandra Agarwal, vice chancellor, SMU, in the presence of Dr. Karma Sonam Sherpa, registrar, SMU; Dr. Muralidhar V. Pai, dean, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences; Prof. Champa Sharma, principal, Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing, and Dr. Keerthilatha M. Pai, Controller of Examination, SMU, amongst others.

The newsletter, which will be published in a digital mode, is a culmination of collabora-

tive efforts by faculty members, staff and students and embodies the spirit of innovation and excellence that defines SMU, informs a press release. In his address, the vice chancellor underscored the importance of effective communication in facilitating dialogue, disseminating information, and nurturing a sense of belonging within the university ecosystem. He emphasized that the newsletter would serve as a platform to showcase the diverse achievements, initiatives, and academic endeavours undertaken by the SMU community.

The SMU newsletter will feature updates on major news and events, research projects,



highlights of student and faculty activities and achievements. It will also provide a

glimpse into the vibrant campus life at SMU, capturing moments of academic discourse,

cultural festivities, and community engagement initiatives, the release adds.

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Foundation stone laid for indoor sports facility at SMU's Tadong campus

SE Report

GANGTOK, May 20: Dr. Ranjan Pai, president of Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG), laid the foundation stone for a new Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) Sports Block at its Tadong campus here at 5th Mile, Tadong today.

Also present on the occasion were Dr. K. Ramnarayan, pro chancellor, Sikkim Manipal University; Vaitheeswaran S., vice chairman & MD, MEMG; Somnath Das, group president- Special Projects, MEMG; Shridhar Hegde, senior vice president- Finance, MEMG, and other officials from SMU.

SMU vice chancellor AVM (Dr.) D. C. Agarwal (Retd.) emphasized the importance of sports in the overall development of students. "A well-rounded education extends beyond academics. Sports play a crucial role in building character, teamwork, and leadership skills," he stated.

"This Indoor Sports Block is a testament to our university's dedication to nurturing talent and promoting a balanced



lifestyle among our students. It is an investment in their future, enabling them to pursue excellence both in academics and sports."

The Indoor Sports Block has been designed by Design Concepts, Gangtok, led by project architect Lhendup W. Bhutia.

Spread over an area of 1,759 sqm, the planned sports complex includes state-of-the-art indoor basketball and futsal courts. The basketball court measures 28 meters x 15 meters and the futsal court measures 17 m x 15 m. The Sports Block will have a seating capacity of 586 people, informs a press release.

The Sports Block is designed with eco-friendly and sustainable features. The architectural plans include

the use of renewable energy sources. The building materials will be selected to minimize environmental impact, and green spaces will be integrated throughout the complex to enhance biodiversity and provide natural aesthetics. These initiatives reflect SMU's dedication to environmental stewardship and sustainability.

As part of the ceremony, a detailed presentation on the Sports Block project was given by the design firm, outlining the architectural plans, expected timeline, and the positive impact it would have on the university's sports culture. The project is slated for completion in 16 months, with phases of development ensuring that facilities are made available progressively.

SMIMS hosts national & State-level physiology quiz competition

SE Report

GANGTOK, May 17: A national-level physiology quiz competition was organized by the Department of Physiology and Anatomy, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences (SMIMS), and Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) here on May 14.

The main objective was to impart knowledge about the intricacies of physiology and open a whole new dimension to learning physiology amongst medical students.

Participants from six different colleges and universities across the country, viz., AIIMS, Kalyani, West Bengal; North Bengal Medical College and Hospital, Siliguri; Bharati Government Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata; EDN Medical College and Hospital, Midnapore, Bihar; Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangalore; and SMIMS, SMU took part in national-level competition.

The event started with the lighting ceremony, followed by an address by Prof. SMIMS Physiology H&D Dr. Sanjiv Datta. SMIMS officiating dean Dr. Sanjiv Datta addressed the gathering at the special guest. Nar Bahadur Bhandari Govt. College principal, Dr. Debraj Parshai, greeted the occasion as the special guest.

The national-level quiz was hosted by SMIMS Physiology Department associate professor Dr. Bhimraj Thapa. SMU vice chancellor and



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NEWS & EVENTS

SMU Commemorates Founder's Day, Honouring Dr. TMA Pai's Enduring Legacy

Each year, on 30th April, Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) honours the birth anniversary of Dr. T.M.A. Pai, Padma Shri, the esteemed founder of the Manipal education and healthcare conglomerate, with various events across its campuses. The events commemorated Dr. Pai's vision while recognizing academic excellence and fostering social responsibility amongst students.

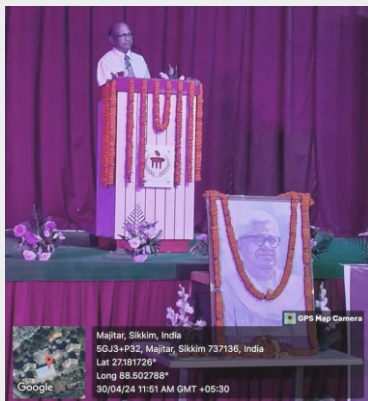
At Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT) at Majhitar, Pakyong, Sikkim, the 126th birth anniversary of Dr. TMA Pai was celebrated as "Annual Day". AVM (Dr.) Dilip Chandra Agarwal (Retd), VSM Vice Chancellor, SMU, was the Chief Guest, while other dignitaries included SDM Rangpo, Mr. Thendup Lepcha, Mr. Mahendra Subba, SDPO Rangpo, and officials from SMU. A floral tribute was paid to Dr. TMA Pai, followed by addresses from the guests. A captivating video presentation offered a historical perspective on the remarkable journey of the Manipal group under the visionary leadership of late Dr. Pai.

SMIT also unveiled its Annual Report and the annual students' magazine, SMITSONIAN, during the ceremony. This was followed by a prize distribution ceremony where students were recognized for their academic achievements for academic year 2023-2024. Awards were presented to the student council, club members, sports champions, special awardees, and the best non-teaching staff member, recognizing their dedication and valuable contributions to the institute. The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) was conferred the honour of "Best Department" for its exceptional performance.

Beyond the celebratory aspects, SMIT displayed a commitment to social responsibility by organizing a free health camp and a blood donation camp at the institute's health centre. The camp provided students with an opportunity to contribute to a noble cause.

Similarly, the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), SMU also organized the Founder's Day Programme on the same day. At the Tadong campus of SMU, various events marked Founder's Day celebrations across its various colleges and constituent units of the University.

Glimpses of Founder's Day celebrations



NEWS & EVENTS

SMCON celebrates 16th Oath taking ceremony and Annual Day

Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing (SMCON) hosted its 16th oath taking ceremony alongside an award ceremony on its annual day on April 30, 2024.

The annual day served as a farewell to the academic session while commemorating the achievements of its students and faculty. This year, SMCON 97 students (2023-27 batch) took their oaths while 48 students were awarded for their outstanding performance in various scholastic and co-scholastic activities, including overall toppers, specialty toppers, meritorious students, and those with the highest percentage of attendance. The day held special significance as it coincided with Founder's Day, paying tribute to the visionary leadership and enduring legacy of our founder, Dr. TMA Pai.

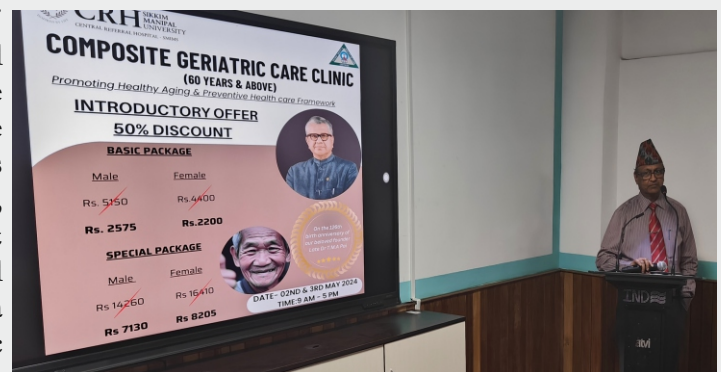


Sikkim gets its first Composite Geriatric Care Clinic at CRH

In an era where our population is aging at an unprecedented rate, the need for specialized care for our elderly has never been more pressing. Geriatric care clinics serve as a beacon of hope and support for our seniors, offering tailored services to meet their unique and evolving healthcare needs.

The idea of having a composite geriatric clinic has been in the pipeline since many days and what better day for its launch than the 126th Birth Anniversary of the founder of the Manipal Group, Padmashree Awardee Dr. TMA Pai, a renewed philanthropist whose vision was to provide healthcare equity across the country.

Spearheaded by the Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy (SMCPT), under Sikkim Manipal University (SMU), the Composite Geriatric Care Clinic is poised to revolutionize elderly care in the region. By amalgamating the expertise of various disciplines, including Physiotherapy, Orthopedics, Medicine, and Dietetics & Nutrition, alongside the resources of the Central Referral Hospital (CRH), the clinic promises a comprehensive and holistic approach to geriatric care.



Orientation on Research Activities

A special lecture session on "Orientation on Research Activities" was held on May 6, 2024, at the Lecture Hall of FHSSLA. The session featured Professor (Dr.) Kalpana Sharma, Director of the Department of Research (DoR) at SMU, and Professor (Dr.) KS Sherpa, Registrar of SMU, as resource persons.

The objectives of the lecture were to provide a platform where faculty members could interact, seek advice, and gain valuable insights on research. Additionally, it aimed to raise awareness about various research incentives, funds, and grants available at SMU, as well as strategies for publication. The session also addressed the Pre-Publication Review Committee, student representation in research, the Mentor-Mentee Scheme, and interdisciplinary projects in collaboration with Manipal Group Universities.

NEWS & EVENTS

Invitational Inter college Volleyball Match



SPORTING ACTIVITIES

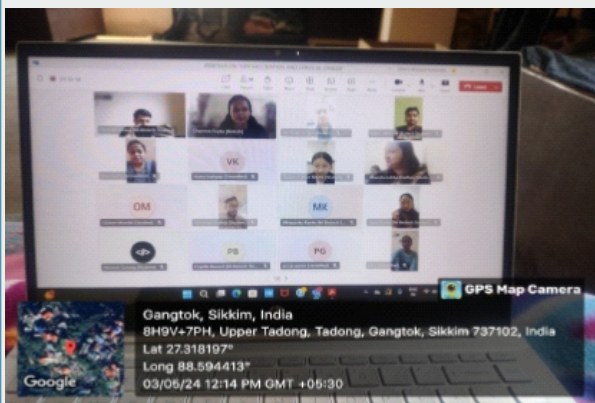
An invitational Girls and Boys volleyball match between SMIT and SRM University, Sikkim was held on April 21, 2024 in Majhitar campus. Organized by the Sports Council, SMIT, this event provided valuable exposure and healthy interactions to

SMCON conducts School Health Assessment and Awareness programme under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

The 1st year M. Sc. Nursing students and faculty of SMCON conducted a School Health Assessment and Awareness programme at PM Shri Govt. Jr. High School, Adampool under the flagship programme of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, on the topic: Peer pressure, Human Trafficking And Teenage Pregnancy on April 30, 2024. Sanitary pad was also distributed to the adolescent girls of the school to promote adolescent health hygiene.



Awareness on HPV Vaccination and Cervical Cancer



Department of Medical Biotechnology, SMIMS organized a Webinar on “Awareness on HPV Vaccination and Cervical Cancer” on May 3, 2024, under Student Research Forum (SRF), SMIMS, SMU in association with Directorate of Research (DoR), SMU. 156 participants from various backgrounds and fields attended the webinar. The webinar was moderated by Saroj Khatiwada (Vice President, SRF) and the keynote speaker of the webinar was Ms. Chamma Gupta, Lecturer, and faculty member, SRF, Department of Medical Biotechnology, SMIMS, SMU.

CRH celebrates World Hand Hygiene Day 2024

The Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC), Central Referral Hospital (CRH) observed World Hand Hygiene Day on May 4, 2024.

The slogan for this year was “Why is sharing knowledge about hand hygiene still so important? because it helps stop the spread of harmful germs in healthcare.” HICC had conducted an essay competition for MBBS 2022 batch students on the topic “Why is sharing knowledge about hand hygiene still so important?” on the May 1, 2024 as a part of the hand hygiene day.

HICC also conducted an awareness programme on the importance of hand hygiene among standards V & VI of Mount Zion School, Lumsey, Gangtok on May 2, 2024.



NEWS & EVENTS

SMIT gets Centre for Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain

Data Systems Inc. (IDS) and SMIT inaugurated the Centre for Excellence (CoE) in Blockchain on May 7, 2024.

This significant milestone stems from a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) inked earlier this year between SMIT and IDS, signifying a strategic alliance poised to reshape the landscape of blockchain innovation.

The inauguration ceremony also heralded the commencement of a comprehensive five-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) focused exclusively on blockchain technology. The resource persons were Mr. Aravind Voruganti, Global VP, IDS and Mr. Dayal Mukati, Principal Blockchain Architect, IDS.



RESEARCH & INNOVATION

AIC-SMU Technology Business Incubator Empowers North East Startups

AIC-SMUTBI hosted a two-day event from May 2-3, 2024, focused on empowering entrepreneurs through learning, collaboration, and networking. The gathering brought together stakeholders, mentors, industry leaders, academia, and startups, fostering knowledge exchange and connections.



The inaugural session was led by CEO, AIC-SMUTBI, Prof (Dr.) Tej Chingtham, welcoming all participants and highlighting the growth of innovation and entrepreneur ecosystem in North-East India. Insights on corporate social responsibility (CSR), importance of sustainable practises, and tackling regional challenges in India on logistics and external funding, were further discussed by speakers from HDFC Bank and Hero MotoCorp, respectively.

Mr. Niranjan Demanna, VP, CSR HDFC Bank, Mr. Utkarsh Mishra, Global Innovation, Hero MotoCorp, Mr. Gulshan Purswani, Delivery Head, Bosch Global Software Technologies and the Board of Directors of AIC-SMUTBI along with AVM (Dr.) DC Agarwal VSM, Vice-Chancellor SMU and Chairman of AIC-SMUTBI, Mrs. Hondala Gyaltsen SCS, Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim and senior officials from SMU were present during the event.

The HDFC CSR Parivartan Grant Winners under AIC-SMUTBI recognizing seven startups for their impactful community include: Crafted Fibers (Sikkim), Green Biotech Ecosolutions Pvt. Ltd. (Manipur), Farmeasy Technologies Pvt. Ltd (Assam), Eco Far (Mizoram), Jome Foods Pvt. Ltd (Nagaland), Sharolyn Ecoempower (Maity Ghar) (Sikkim), and SS Bamboowala Pvt. Ltd. (Tripura), covering six states of the North East. AIC-SMUTBI is the only incubation center in North East India selected for the HDFC CSR Parivartan Grant to support startups from the region.

Concurrently, business, innovation, and technology topics were explored during Bootcamp workshop, attended by 30+ startups across the North East and North Bengal regions.

NEWS & EVENTS

SMIMS Hosts National & State Level Physiology Quiz Competition 2024

A National & State level Physiology Quiz competitions was organized by the Department of Physiology and Academic & Research Committee, SMIMS on May 6 and May 14, 2024 respectively. The main objectives behind the quiz completion was to impart knowledge about the intricacies of Physiology and open a whole new dimension to learning Physiology amongst medical students.



Participants from 6 different colleges/Universities across the country- AIIMS, Kalyani, West Bengal; North Bengal Medical College and Hospital, Siliguri; Barasat Government Medical College and hospital, Kolkata; RDJM Medical College and hospital, Mujaffarpur, Bihar; Manipal Tata Medical College, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand and SMIMS, SMU took part in the National Level competition. The State level Physiology Quiz competition saw 7 different colleges/Universities of Sikkim, namely

Sikkim Professional College of Nursing, Sikkim Professional College of Physiotherapy, Himalayan Institute of Pharmacy, Majitar, Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing, Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy, Sikkim Manipal College of Medical Biotechnology, and Department of Allied Health Profession, SMU participating in the event.

SMU launches Bachelor's Degree Programme in Hospital Administration (BHA)

SMU has unveiled its Bachelor's degree programme in Hospital Administration (BHA). This transformative step promises to alter the perception and pursuit of healthcare management opportunities, offering a distinctive route for recent 10+2 graduates, irrespective of their academic backgrounds.

As the only university in the region with an attached 500+ bedded teaching hospital, SMU offers students a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in live projects and gain invaluable insights into hospital settings throughout the course of their studies.

The BHA programme offers affordability, ensuring financial constraints do not impede the aspirations of future healthcare professionals. Additionally, scholarships will be available to high-performing students.



SMU SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES & LIBERAL ARTS

UNLOCK YOUR PATH TO HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP WITH OUR NEWEST PROGRAM:

BACHELOR IN HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION

ENROLL NOW
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE IN HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT!

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSIONS:
OR
 • THE CANDIDATE MUST HAVE PASSED (10+2) OR EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION
 • MAXIMUM INTAKE- 40

+91 99338 48000 +91 81238 99811
 hres@pgenr.smu.edu.in smug@smu.edu.in

SMCON holds Blood Donation Camp to commemorate International Nurses' Week

On the occasion of the International Nurses' Week, a blood donation camp was organized by the Red Ribbon Club of SMCON in collaboration with Central Blood Bank of Central Referral Hospital (CRH) on May 10, 2024.

A team of doctors, nurses, technicians, faculty, 6 volunteers and the donors collaborated in making the event successful. More than 70 people voluntarily turned up to donate their valuable blood.



NEWS & EVENTS

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

World Hand Hygiene Day

On the occasion of World Hand Hygiene Day (May 5), final-year B.Sc. Nursing students (interns) from SMCON organized a health education and handwashing demonstration program at the Health and Wellness Centre in Rangpo, Sikkim, and in Chanatar, Rangpo, Sikkim. This initiative was dedicated to promoting hand hygiene practices globally.



Tech Mahindra CoE Lab at SMIT

The Training and Placement (T&P) Cell at SMIT held an online content finalization meeting with representatives from Tech Mahindra on May 14, 2024.

During this discussion, several key decisions were made, including the establishment of a Center of Excellence (CoE) lab at SMIT by Tech Mahindra. The CoE lab will focus on training students in Full Stack Development (FSD). Additionally, small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) associated with Tech Mahindra will mentor the students, providing them with practical insights and guidance. This collaboration aims to enhance the students' skills and employability. Students trained at the CoE will have opportunities for hiring at Tech Mahindra, creating a direct pathway from education to employment within the company.

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

AIC-SMUTBI's Startup Founders Connect 2024

AIC - SMU Technology Business Incubator (AIC - SMUTBI) hosted a Founders Connect on May 16, 2024 enabling entrepreneurs from North East to collaborate, connect, and consolidate. The gathering brought together stakeholders, government officials, mentors, industry leaders, academia, and startups, fostering knowledge exchange and connections.

Attended by 30+ startups across the North East and North Bengal (Darjeeling Hills) region, the event had the presence of Shri K. K. Singh, Joint Secretary, MEITY (Ministry of Information Technology and Electronics), Govt. of India and Shri Vishwas Shrivastava, Scientist, MEITY, Govt. of India. Start-ups like O2 Himalaya, Urjjah EV, Akumen Artificial Intelligence, Nibiaa Devices, Makaiko, Prakritiko, Maity Ghar, Studio Zeyma, Crafted Fibers, Craft and Clay, Syangbo's Food and Living Beverages, Gladiolus Language Nectar, Puzzle Craft, Denzong Waters, IBC and more were present during the event.

The Founders Connect programme provided an opportunity for startups to network with co-founders and discussed a way forward, creating a strong foundation for mutually beneficial market connects and shared experiences through active group discussions and participation. Various startups demonstrated their products and services.

GUEST LECTURES

Invited Lecture on Gaussian Curvature

The Department of Mathematics at SMIT organized an invited lecture on May 17, 2024.

The speaker, Dr. Diganta Bora, Associate Professor at IISER Pune, introduced the concept of Gaussian curvature of a surface and discussed Gauss' Theorema Egregium. The lecture was attended by faculty and M.Sc. and B.Sc. students.

NEWS & EVENTS

Foundation Stone laid for new Indoor Sports Facility at Tadong campus

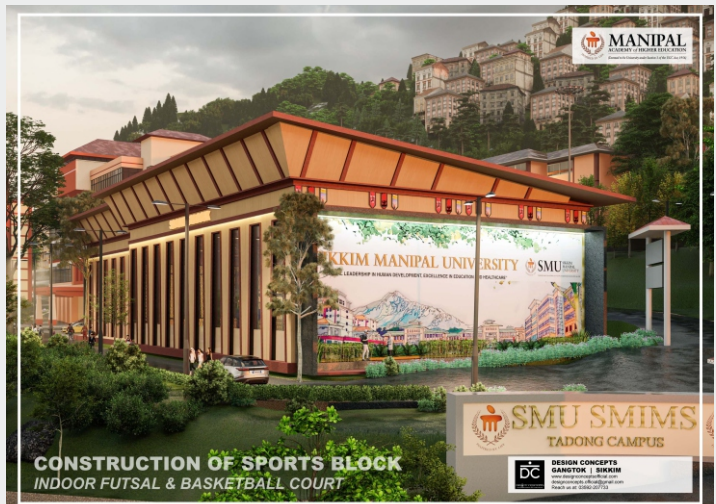
In a significant step towards promoting sports and holistic development among students, Dr. Ranjan Pai, President of the Manipal Education and Medical Group (MEMG), laid the foundation stone for a new Sports Block in the Tadong Campus. The ceremony marked a pivotal moment for the university, reflecting its commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities to foster physical education and sports excellence.

Also present on the occasion were Dr. K. Ramnarayan, Pro Chancellor, Sikkim Manipal University; Shri Vaitheeswaran S, Vice Chairman & MD, MEMG; Shri Somnath Das, Group President-Special Projects, MEMG; Shri Shridhar Hegde, Senior Vice President-Finance, MEMG, and other officials from SMU.

The new Sports Block has been designed by Design Concepts, Gangtok, Sikkim led by Project Architect Shri Lhendup W. Bhutia.

Spread over an area of 1759 sqm, the planned sports complex includes state-of-the-art indoor basketball and futsal courts. The basketball court measures 28 meters x 15 meters and the futsal court 17 meters x 15 meters. The Sports Block will have a seating capacity of 586 people.

Significantly, the Sports Block will be designed with eco-friendly and sustainable features. The architectural plans include the use of renewable energy sources. The building materials will be selected to minimize environmental impact, and green spaces will be integrated throughout the complex to enhance biodiversity and provide natural aesthetics. These initiatives reflect SMU's dedication to environmental stewardship and sustainability.



DoT Special Director visits SMIT

Shri Ravi GR, ITS, Special Director General, Department of Telecommunication, Ministry of Communications, Government of India visited SMIT on May 23, 2024. He was accompanied by Shri Mahmud ur Rehman, ITS, Dy. DG, DoT, GoI and officials of DoT.

Cdr. (Dr.) G. L. Sharma, Director, SMIT presided over a meeting where various aspects of the government initiatives in the Communication specially for the state of Sikkim was discussed. Possibilities of start-ups and product development for various 5G Uses Cases were also deliberated. Director SMIT presented the status of the 5G Use Case Lab being set-up at SMIT and assured the effective utilization of the lab to meet all the challenges, be it at local, national or global levels.



NEWS & EVENTS

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

Euphoria 2024

The Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Liberal Arts (FHSSLA) at the Tadong Campus its four-day long annual fest “Euphoria 2024” that combines sports and cultural activities from May 29 to June 1, 2024.



World No Tobacco Day 2024

SMU observed 'World No Tobacco Day' on May 31, 2024, across all its constituent colleges and departments to raise awareness among students, faculties, and staff. This year's theme was 'Protecting Children from Tobacco Industry Interference.'

'No Tobacco Pledge' was taken by the students, faculty members, and staff, to avoid tobacco-related products throughout their lives.

An outreach awareness campaign cum oral health camp was jointly conducted by the Dept. of Allied Health Professions, SMIMS and Dept. of Dentistry, Central Referral Hospital (CRH), SMIMS, SMU, at Baha'i Sr. Sec. School, Saramsa, Sikkim. Students actively participated in group activities and discussions and acted on the adverse effects of tobacco, and the benefits of a tobacco-free life. Oral health check-up for students and faculty members of the school was done by Dr. Atanu Bhanja and Dr. Archana Sharma from Dept. of Dentistry, CRH.



IT applications in healthcare

An outreach event was conducted on May 31, 2024 by STPI Gangtok on “Open Challenge Programme -5.0 (OCP) to incubate start-up/students/professionals in new and emerging technologies in areas of IT applications in healthcare at SMIMS, Tadong Campus.

The research persons were Mr. NS Siddaiah, Additional Director 7 OIC STPI Gangtok and Mr. Rahul Singrani, Co-founder & CEO, ten3T Healthcare & Chief Mentor for IT application of healthcare & Agritech-Gangtok. The event was conducted in a hybrid mode with a total of 70 participants (faculty, PGs & PhD scholars) from SMIMS.

NEWS & EVENTS

AHA BLS and ACLS Training for CRH Staff

A three-day training programme on American Heart Association (AHA) Accredited Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) was held for doctors and nurses from the Central Referral Hospital (CRH) at SMIMS on 27-29 May 2024.

The training, organized by the AHA Trainers Group of SMIMS and funded by the Staff and Faculty Development Capacity Building Council (SMU-SFCDC), was facilitated by the Life Savers Association, New Delhi. The team from Life Savers Association included Lead Instructor Dr. Rakesh Kumar, and Instructors Dr. Anil Misra, Dr. Rajender Kumar, and Dr. Unnati Asthana. In-house instructors, accredited by AHA, included Prof. Dr. Meyong P Bhutia, Prof. Dr. Mohonish N Chettri, Prof. Dr. Pesona Grace Lucksom, Dr. Purna Chettri, and Dr. Caroline Karthak.



A total of 36 doctors, nurses, and support staff from various disciplines of CRH participated in the training and will receive E-Cards from the American Heart Association.

Training Programme on Pharmacovigilance

The Department of Pharmacology, SMIMS in collaboration with National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Guwahati and National Coordination Centre, Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ghaziabad organized a one-day Training Programme on Pharmacovigilance on May 31, 2024, at the Tadong Campus.

Dr Jai Prakash, Officer-in-Charge, PvPI was the resource person. The Importance of Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) reporting; Operationalizing a new ADR Monitoring Centre and Challenges faced in ADR reporting were topics discussed during the programme. A case based hands-on training module on the Tools and Methodology for ADR Reporting was also held. Around 100 participants belonging to various institutions within and out of Sikkim attended the programme where they were accredited with 2 credit hours and 3 credit hours for the resource faculty of Sikkim Medical Council.



World Environment Day 2024

The National Service Scheme (NSS) of SMU observed World Environment Day 2024 with great zeal and enthusiasm at the Tadong Campus. The celebration included a brief orientation session focusing on various prospects of the environment, climate change, and associated challenges. This was followed by a Plantation Drive on the campus, where all participants actively engaged in planting saplings of various trees and flowers.

NEWS & EVENTS

Capacity Building Initiative to Strengthen the Clinical and Laboratory Detection of Melioidosis in India with special focus on the Northeastern States

An awareness training programme was conducted by SMIMS on the ICMR funded project entitled 'MISSION: A Multi-Centric Capacity Building Initiative to Strengthen the Clinical and Laboratory Detection of Melioidosis in India with special focus on the Northeastern States' at Namchi District hospital on June 14, 2024. The department of Microbiology, SMIMS and the Department of Medicine SMIMS have been trained by Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, MAHE and ICMR-Delhi under the said project for clinical diagnosis, laboratory diagnosis and management of melioidosis cases.



SMIT signs MoU with Dominion University College, Ghana

SMIT and Dominion University College, Ghana, Africa have entered into a partnership focused on the fields of education and research. This significant step towards international collaboration was formalized during a virtual MoU signing ceremony on June 22, 2024.



The partnership aims to foster academic and research cooperation between the two institutions, enhancing educational opportunities for students and faculty members. This collaboration will involve joint research projects, student and faculty exchange programs, and the sharing of academic resources and expertise. This initiative is expected to strengthen the academic ties between India and Ghana, promoting cross-cultural learning and contributing to the advancement of knowledge in various fields of study.

Gender Equality and Prevention of Workplace Harassment

The Internal Committee (IC) and Gender Equality Committee of SMIMS, SMU, organized a three-day awareness programme on Gender Equality and Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Workplace, themed "Building a Respectful and Inclusive Workplace: Promoting Gender Equality and Preventing Sexual Harassment." Held on June 15, 20, and 22, 2024, the programme involved over 700 students and 250 faculty members from various units of SMU at Tadong Campus.

Activities included a digital badge/poster designing competition, a debate on "Is cultural relativism a valid excuse for Gender Inequality?", skits, and video submissions on the theme. Special lectures focused on gender equality, equity, and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013 (PoSH).



Dr. Keerthilatha M Pai, Controller of Examination, SMU, Dr. Geeta Soohinda, Associate Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry and Chairperson, Internal Complaints Committee, CRH and Mrs. Zola Megi, Sr. Advocate, High Court, Government of Sikkim were the resource persons.

NEWS & EVENTS

International Yoga Day 2024

The 10th International Yoga Day (IYD) was celebrated at SMU with zeal and enthusiasm through various events under the theme “Yoga for Self & Society”. At the Tadong campus, the Department of Physiology, SMIMS, SMU organized a Walkathon with participation from students and staff of SMIMS, SMCON, SMCPT, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Biotechnology, MHA, Department of Allied Health Sciences, and NSS volunteers. This was followed by a yoga session based on the Common Yoga Protocol by the Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India, and a hybrid webinar. An inter-college debate on “Yoga empowers women” included students from SRM University, Gangtok, SMIMS, SMCON, SMCPT, and the Department of Biotechnology, SMU. Additionally, a geotagged best posture competition and a Yoga poster competition on “Exploring the Therapeutic Benefits of Yoga” were held. At the Majhitar Campus, the Department of Physical Education and Sports, SMIT organized a two-day event featuring yoga sessions.

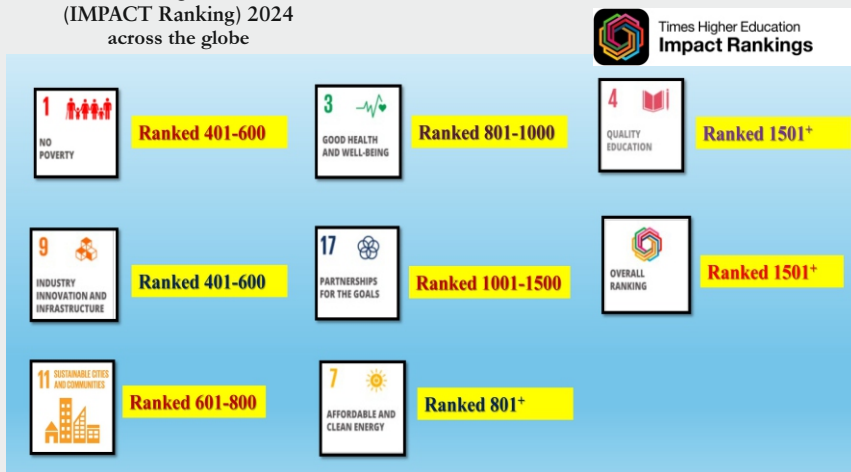


of India, and a hybrid webinar. An inter-college debate on “Yoga empowers women” included students from SRM University, Gangtok, SMIMS, SMCON, SMCPT, and the Department of Biotechnology, SMU. Additionally, a geotagged best posture competition and a Yoga poster competition on “Exploring the Therapeutic Benefits of Yoga” were held. At the Majhitar Campus, the Department of Physical Education and Sports, SMIT organized a two-day event featuring yoga sessions.

LATEST RANKINGS

SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

THE Times Higher Education (IMPACT Ranking) 2024 across the globe



Times Higher Education Impact Rankings

WURI The WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS for INNOVATION

WURI 2024: Entrepreneur Spirit (A4) Top 100 SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY RANKED 15

Rank	Name
1	HEC Montreal
2	Chungwoon University
3	Ifugao State University
4	Stanford University
5	Yale University
6	Faculty of Dentistry, Universitas Gadjah Mada
7	Gachon University
8	KALINGA STATE UNIVERSITY
9	Saint Mary's University of Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
10	Bonga University
11	Singapore Management University
12	Harvard University
13	University of Oxford
14	Mountain Province State Polytechnic College
15	Sikkim Manipal University
16	University of Tokyo
17	ABRA STATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOG
18	Cordillera Career Development College
19	Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women [IGDTUW]
20	Burapha University
21	University of Luzon
22	Tsinghua University
23	Case Western Reserve University
24	University of California, Berkeley
25	KAIST- Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology

SMU Rankings

Ranking	Category	2024
THEWEEK	India's Best Multidisciplinary University	48
	Non-Govt. Private & Deemed Multi Disciplinary University	19
	East Zone Multi-Disciplinary Universities (Govt./ Non Govt.)	06

NEWS & EVENTS

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Directorate of Research, SMU RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Recognizing the critical role of research, SMU has declared 2024 as the Year of Research, focusing on activities that advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), promote collaboration, encourage innovation, facilitate knowledge exchange, support professional development, and enhance research impact. New research incentive schemes, including grants, funding opportunities, awards, collaboration initiatives, and professional development opportunities, have been introduced. A key initiative is the Mentor-Mentee and Sathi scheme for students and teachers, aiming to cultivate a research culture at SMU. Various planned research activities for 2024 will further these goals:

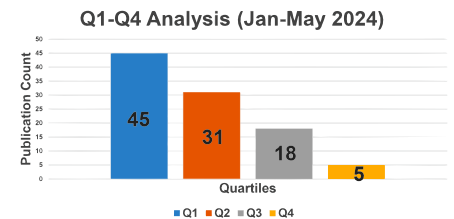
- Workshops and training sessions on research methodologies, data analysis techniques, and academic writing skills.
- Mini-conferences, symposia, and research forums focused on specific themes or topics of interest.
- Research seminars, guest lectures, and panel discussions featuring prominent scholars and experts.
- Research competitions, hackathons, and innovation challenges to stimulate creativity and problem-solving skills.
- Collaborative research projects, joint publications, and interdisciplinary research initiatives spanning multiple disciplines and departments.

Duration and Implementation:

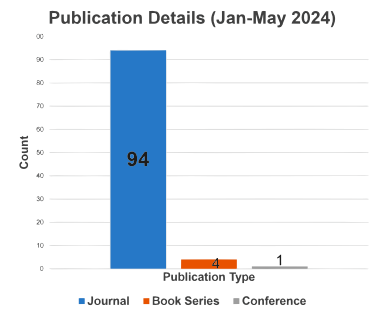
- The Year of Research 2024 will commence in April 2024 and conclude in March 2025, with activities and initiatives scheduled throughout the academic year 2024-2025.

- The implementation of research activities will be coordinated by the Directorate of Research (DoR), SMU, in collaboration with the Associate Director (Research) of SMIMS/SMIT, relevant academic departments, and student organizations such as the Students' Research Forum (SRF).

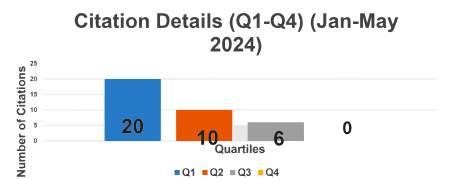
SMU is proud to present the Scopus publication data from January 2024 till May 2024. The trend in publications shows that by the end of 2024, SMU is hopeful to double its publications in high-impact journals.



Publication Count			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
45	31	18	5



Publication Type	Count
Journal	94
Book Series	4
Conference	1



Citation Count			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
20	10	6	0

To summarize:

In Q1, there were 45 publications, followed by 31 in Q2, 18 in the Q3, and 5 in the Q4 publications. Breaking down the publication types, there were 94 journal publications, 4 book series, and 1 conference publication.

As for citations, there were 20 citations in Q1, 10 in Q2, and 6 in Q3.

In the subsequent issue of SMU Newsletter, highlights on other research activities of SMU viz. intra-mural/ Extra-mural grants, consultancy etc. will be presented.

SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

- ❑ Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT)
- ❑ Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences (SMIMS)
- ❑ Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing (SMCON)
- ❑ Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy (SMCPT)
- ❑ Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Liberal Arts
- ❑ Central Referral Hospital (CRH)
- ❑ Department of Hospital Administration
- ❑ Department of Medical Biotechnology
- ❑ Department of Allied Health Professions
- ❑ Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

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