



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Faculty Development Program on Energy & Power Systems (5th -9th August, 2019)
- 2nd National Level Essay Writing Contest (20th August, 2019)
- One Week Workshop on Role of Soft-Skills in Effective Classroom Management (19th—23rd August, 2019)

PATRON

Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi

EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Simran Preet Kaur
Ms. Surbhi Sharma

DESIGN & DRAFT:

Mr. Girdhari Lal Sharma

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Mr. Om Parkash

Campus Jottings

School of Business SMVD University Signs MOU with IPE, Hyderabad

SMVDU Katra, 3rd July 2019: The School of Business, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE), Hyderabad. The IPE is one among the premier Business Schools in India, recognized as a 'Centre for Excellence' by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of Human Resources, Government of India, New Delhi for research. The institute has developed strong links with industry and academic institutions and is one of the founder members of the Association of Indian Management Schools. The School of

Business, SMVD University, Katra, J&K, is an established center for management education in India. It offers MBA programs accredited by the National Board of Accreditation, New Delhi and Ph.D. program in business and management. The School has a rich industry interface and conducts trainings and development programs

for private and public sector enterprises. The objective of the agreement is to establish cooperation between both institutions. This agreement marks the formal commitment of both institutions to explore practical approaches to creating mutually beneficial relationships in order to promote faculty research and improve the educational environment and enhance industry interface. The MoU was signed between Dr. R.K. Mishra, Director, IPE and Registrar, SMVDU, in the presence of Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU and Dean, Faculty of Management and Dr. Saurabh, Head, School of Business, SMVDU.



Workshop on Art of Living Conducted at SMVD University



SMVDU Katra, July 2019. A workshop on Art of Living was conducted at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) from 22-27 July 2019 for first year students. It is a part of the mandatory Induction Program as approved by the AICTE, comprising components of cultural activities, personal and interpersonal human endeavors along with some physical activity and community service. The Art of Living offers stress elimination modules including breathing techniques, meditation and yoga and helps in conflict resolution, disaster relief, sustainable rural development, empowerment of women, education for all, and environmental sustainability. More than 200 students are participating who get trained by four trainers, namely Mr. Rohit Ranjan, Mr. Manjeet Singh, Ms. Kousar Razvi and Ms. Udit Agarwal from the Art of Living Foundation which was started by Guru Shri Shri Ravishankar Ji for humanitarian and educational cause in society. The event is sponsored by TEQIP-III and is coordinated by Dr. Balbir Singh (Associate Professor, SoME, SMVDU) and Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma (Faculty Coordinator, NSS, SMVDU).

Workshop-cum-training on High Performance Computation Servers Held at SMVDU



SMVDU, Katra, July 2019. A two-day workshop-cum-training on High Performance Computation Servers successfully concluded at SMVDU on 25 and 26 July. This training session was specifically organized by the SMVDU TBIC for the staff and students of SMVDU who are interested in entrepreneurial activities and high end professional trainings. The session commenced with an address by Dr. Swarnkar Sharma, CEO, SMVDU TBIC, who interacted with the staff and students about the importance of such workshops which help in the overall skill development of the individual. Dell Inc. personnel conducted this training and shared how technology integration in local areas can change the life of common people and motivated the students to think innovative and do research in such niche domains. The session was initiated with concepts of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Deep Learning, its frameworks and various modelling techniques. Later the session concluded with an interactive session by Ms. Swati Sharma, Manager, SMVDU TBIC, and distribution of certificate of participation among the students. The CEO, SMVDU TBIC extended its vote of thanks to the organizing team. For the promotion of innovation and research related activities in the institute and the state, the SMVDU TBIC is planning to conduct a series of such workshops in near future.

Student Induction Program (SIP) Starts at SMVD University

Following the AICTE guidelines, a three-week Student Induction Program for newly admitted B.Tech students started on 16 July 2019, and it will run till 03 August 2019 at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The Chairperson of this program, Prof. E. Muthusamy, Dean of Engineering, SMVDU, briefed about the purpose of the SIP, it would help new students adjust and feel comfortable in the new environment; inculcate in them the ethos and culture of the institution; help them build bonds with other students and faculty members; and expose them to a sense of larger purpose and self exploration. At the onset of the SIP, the new students learned about the institutional policies, processes, practices, culture



and values, and their mentor groups were formed. The program commenced with a formal welcome by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma (Member Secretary, Induction Cell, SMVDU). The first lecture was delivered by Dr. S.K. Wanchoo (I/C Examinations and Associate Professor, School of Physics) which took students on a journey to how SMVD University has evolved over the years. An interactive and motivational talk by Prof. Chetan S. Solanki from IIT Bombay was delivered who is widely known as the 'Solar Man of India'. The day culminated with a lecture on academics and related issues by Dr. Sumeet Gupta (Dean of Academics, and Associate Professor, School of Electronics and Communication Engineering) who explained the pedagogy associated with the university along with its requirements. In the coming days and weeks, there would be lectures from eminent personalities from the academia and industry, proficiency tests in English and Computer familiarity, a compulsory physical activity which includes sports and yoga, department, library and laboratory visits, talent hunt of students for creative arts, literary and culture, special lectures on human values, and also visits to the local area. The program is also taking the feedback of students to make it better.

Celebration and Day Observed

Kargil Diwas Celebrated at SMVDU

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. The SMVDU TBIC in association with the Indian Army celebrated Kargil Diwas at SMVDU in which Brigadier Udai Jawa interacted with students and faculty and shared the stories of valor and strength of the Indian Army during the Kargil war.



External Experts

Special Lecture on NSS Conducted at SMVD University

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. Mr. Kiran Kumar Sharma, Chairman and CEO of International Volunteer Foundation (IVF) and two times national award winner, delivered a special lecture on "Serving society with a cause" to the 1st year students at the SMVD University (SMVDU), Katra. In his talk, he stressed the need for volunteerism among youth. He also spoke on the massive cleanliness campaign named "Save the Trikuta Mountains" which is jointly organized by the NSS wing of SMVDU along with IVF. Mr. Sharma also told students to engage in social service and to help the destitute as there is no act nobler than that. The lecture was motivational and interactive and was applauded by the students. The event was coordinated by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma, Faculty Coordinator NSS, along with volunteers of SMVD University.



Faculty/Staff Updates

SMVDU Faculty Receives the Certificate of Official Distinction at International Conference in Poland

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Senior Faculty, School of Mathematics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, was awarded with the Certificate of Official Distinction of the 26th International Science Conference on Computer Networks (CN 2019) for his outstanding research paper entitled, "Transient solution of a heterogeneous queuing system with balking and retention of reneging customers", co-authored by Sapana Sharma and Vladimir Rykov during June 25-27, 2019 at Gliwice, Poland. This paper is published in the Scopus and Web of Science indexed proceedings, titled 'Communication in Computer and Information Science (CCIS)' by Springer. The conference was organized by the Institute of Informatics of the Faculty of Automatic Control, Electronics and Computer Science, Silesian University of Technology, Poland, and supported by the Committee on Informatics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Section of Computer Networks and Distributed Systems in technical co-operation with the IEEE and consulting support of the INEER organization. This conference was attended by a number participants from France, Turkey, Germany, Ukraine, Russia, Morocco, Poland, Italy, USA and many more. Dr. Kumar expressed his gratitude towards Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for providing him the suitable working atmosphere and support for this visit.



SMVDU Prof. Eswaramoorthy Delivers Talk at Kurukshetra

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. Dr. M. Eswaramoorthy, Dean (FoE), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra delivered an invited talk on Advances in Solar Thermoelectric Power Generation in Short Term Course on 'Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy' from 8th - 12th July, 2019, organised by the School of Renewable Energy and Efficiency, National Institute of Technology

(NIT), Kurukshetra in association with Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Department of New and Renewable Energy, Haryana and Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency, Panchkula. The participants gained knowledge on Solar Thermoelectric Conversion domain.

SMVDU Faculty visits ISBACON 2019, Kerala

Dr. Swarkar Sharma, CEO TBIC visited ISBACON 2019, National conference held in Kottayam, Kerala. Professionals involved in promoting innovation, entrepreneurship and research attended the conference and brainstormed on various topics like Incubation Support, Product Development, Idea Support etc.

Dr. Balbir Singh, Associate Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, SMVDU attended the Board of Study Meeting for the B.Tech Mechanical Engineering at Sijoul Campus, Sandeep University, Bihar.

Publications

Munish Sharma, Anuja Koul, Ashok Ahuja and Sharada Mallubhotla. (2019) Suitability of bench scale bioreactor system for shoot biomass production and bacovide biosynthesis from *Bacopa monnieri* (L.). Engineering Life Sciences, 1-7. doi.org/10.1002/elsc. 201800184

SMVDU Faculty Wrote a Book on Utilization of Municipal Solid Waste

Dr. Rahul Sharma, Assistant Professor, School of Civil Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra published a book titled "Utilization of Municipal Solid Waste Incineration Ash in Concrete " published by Lambert Academic Publishing, 17 Meldrum street, Beau Bassin 71504, Mauritius, ISBN: 978-3-659-59126-6.

Student Updates

SMVDU Girls selected for 32nd Women Tug of War National Championship

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. The Jammu and Kashmir Tug of War Association held trials for 32nd Senior Women Tug of War National Championship on 24th July, 2019 at Jammu. Two students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), namely Shruti (B.Tech., ECE 1st Year) and Sonika Thakur (M.Sc. Economics 4th Year) selected for the J&K state team. Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, congratulated both the students and conveyed his best wishes for the National Championship at Agra (U.P.) w.e.f 28th-30th July, 2019.



SMVDU Student Secures M. Phil. Seat at IIT Bombay

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. Mr. Vimarsh Padha, a student of School of Economics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), was selected for the M.Phil program in Planning and Policy, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay. Mr. Padha graduated in five-year integrated M.Sc. Economics program, SMVDU, with a specialization in the Monetary Economics. Prof.(Dr.) D. Mukhopadhyay, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, and the Head, School of Economics, Dr. Pabitra K. Jena, congratulated the candidate, and wished him a bright future ahead. Previously, Mr. Padha had been working as a researcher in a Think-Tank based in Delhi, headed by the former Chief Economic Advisor, Dr. Arvind Virmani and Prof. Charan Singh, former senior Economist, IMF & Research Director at RBI Economic Policy and Debt Management Unit.



SMVDU Students Qualify NET 2019

SMVDU Katra, 16 July 2019. Research scholars and students of the School of Languages and Literature at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, qualified UGC-National Eligibility Test (NET) 2019 in English and Linguistics. The qualified candidates are: Madhav Dubey (NET & JRF), Manvi Sharma (NET), Akshay Raina (NET), Deepika Bhagat (NET) in English. Ms. Ayushi (NET) and Ms. Akanksha Sharma (NET), research students of the School, qualified NET in Linguistics. Dr. Amitabh V. Dwivedi, Head, School of Languages & Literature, congratulated all successful candidates, and informed that the SMVDU students register themselves for SWAYAM/NPTEL courses every semester to acquire knowledge from the professors of IITs. Moreover, the research students also attend GIAN/FDP courses regularly. The School also conducts research and learning activities through its Research Club & NET Club, and also organizes Comprehensive Examination to tap the progress of each student. The syllabus of the school is designed in such a way that it assists students to appear in and qualify competitive exams like NET, SET, and alike. By qualifying such prestigious and competitive exams, the alumni as well as the students of SMVDU have proved to be a real asset to the School.



Paper Presentations/Participations

Deepika (Ph.D. Student of SoB) under the guidance of Dr. Rashmi Taggar presented paper titled 'Customer Centricity: A Battle Cry of Fashion Retailers' at the AGBA's 16th World Congress held at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi on 2nd -4th July, 2019

SMVDU students participated in MHRD IIC's Proof of concept competition and attended their regional mentoring session held on 19th July in PEC Chandigarh .

Suhaib Ahmed Batt Qualifies for the Award of Ph.D.

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. Suhaib Ahmed Batt was declared qualified for the award of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Electronics and Communication Engineering by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra. He worked on the topic "A Configurable Ultra Low Power Data Converter for Cardiac and Neural Implants," under the supervision of Dr. Vipin Kakkar, Associate Professor, School of Electronics and Communication Engineering, SMVDU, Katra. During his Ph.D., he qualified both UGC-NET and JKSET and published more than 30 research articles in reputed SCI/SCI-E, SCOPUS indexed international journals and conferences. He was recently felicitated with Young Scientist Award at New Delhi.



Social Responsibility

Documentation of Rich Dogra Culture Initiated at SMVD University

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. The Board of Cultural Activities at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) under the direction of Mr. Gaurav Singh Jamwal (Team Head and Cultural Coordinator) along with Mr. Opinder Sharma (Production Controller) and other team members took up an initiative to find out the unexplored regions and take record of the first hand data so as to produce a documentary



of the folk musical forms. The venture is commendable not only from the point of view of creating first-hand data of the cultural forms of the region, but also from the viewpoint of SMVDU's taking initiative towards its social and cultural responsibility. This project will also be significant towards preservation and promotion of regional cultural forms. It is a vivid fact that Jammu region, especially its mountainous region, is rich in regional and folk cultural and art forms such as folk songs, dances, crafts, festivals and their celebrations, habitat and living patterns. Moreover, the region has not been sufficiently explored by cultural enthusiasts. No standard study or any systematic effort for documentation of the regional culture has also not been done so far. Thus, the study is a novel and pioneer attempt to conserve and showcase the hidden beauty of this region.

Dr. Varun K. Tripathi (ex-President, Board of Cultural Activities, SMVDU) took up this initiative to document and preserve the art forms which is now supported by Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma (President, Board of Cultural Activities, SMVDU). This initiative of cultural preservation which highlights the Dogra culture and heritage has immense importance as it is being initiated by SMVDU to develop a capacity building module to sensitize students of their rich culture of which they are the real stakeholders. Not only that, it will enable the students from other states to have a glimpse of the affluent and prosperous culture of this neglected region. The process of shooting and post production is in full swing and in the near future, it will be screened at SMVDU along with some other places.

Community Visit to Spread Awareness of Education Undertaken at SMVD University

SMVDU Katra, July 2019. Vikalp – a students' initiative to educate the destitute along with National Service Scheme (NSS) at SMVD University conducted a community visit to spread awareness about the importance of education for individual and social growth. More than 200 first year students with the help of 20 senior volunteers participated in it. The pupils went to the nearby villages, visited houses, met parents and kids and informed them about Vikalp. The main objective of the Vikalp program, which started in 2009, is to extend basic education to the under-privileged children of the close by villages and to the children



of the of the construction workers on the campus. The objective is to take care of their overall growth, including their medical care. The Vikalp initiative is committed to the cause of social justice, sustainable development and human rights and undertakes developing activities and programs for the literacy of children, which include computer courses, career counselling, sports and games activities etc. The community visit is a part of three weeks mandatory Induction program for first year students ongoing at SMVD University. One of the major projects taken up by the Vikalp team is to improve the condition of deprived, living in a poor human condition in rural areas of Kakryal and Syria villages, adjoining the University campus. The team conducts evening classes focusing on the issues of personal hygiene and general cleanliness for the students of the rural community in and around on the university premises. The focus is also on the healthcare and awareness program for various government initiatives. The activity was jointly coordinated by Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi (Faculty Coordinator, Vikalp) and Mr. Sumanta S. Sharma (Faculty Coordinator, NSS). Prof. E. Muthusamy, Dean of Engineering and Chairman of the Induction Program expressed his satisfaction on this awareness campaign and Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay (Hon'ble Vice Chancellor) congratulated the team for its indefatigable efforts.