



AULA MAGNA

An initiative by the Office of International Affairs & Collaborations, MAHE

UKIERI-Study in India Mobility Program

The UK India Education & Research Initiative (UKIERI) has launched a new funding scheme to support UK undergraduate student mobility to India – The Study in India program. The UKIERI Mobility Program: Study in India, provides flexible grants to UK higher education institutions (HEIs) and their Indian partner institutions to design and deliver academically rigorous short-term mobility opportunities in India for undergraduate students from UK HEIs. The upper limit for grant awards is £60,000.

MAHE is tailoring the short-term mobility programs for UK students individually for each partner university in the respective disciplines. The grant-fund mobility should take place between 01 June 2020 and 15 January 2021. The results were announced in December 2019 and MAHE managed to get six successful grants out of the eleven applications with different partner universities across UK. This includes King's College London, The University of Sheffield, University of Portsmouth, Edinburgh Napier University, another grant from University of Portsmouth, and University of Aberdeen.

UNSW-MAHE Collaborative Research Seed Grant

Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, India and University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, as part of the MAHE-UNSW Landmark Partnership announced the MAHE-UNSW Collaborative Research Seed Grant Scheme 2019. As per the scheme, grants of up to \$20,000 may be awarded for a duration of 12 months. Each institution will provide funds to its own researchers i.e., lead investigators will receive up to \$10,000 for their seed projects from their respective institutions. The list of the successful grant awardees was announced by Dr H Vinod Bhat, Vice Chancellor, MAHE and Prof Ian Jacobs, President & Vice Chancellor, UNSW on 14 Dec 2019 during the visit of the high-profile delegation from UNSW to Manipal.

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FACULTY ADVISOR & EDITORS

*Dr Shubha HS, Raadhika Agrawal,
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COLLABORATIONS THIS QUARTER



**Srinakharinwirot
University, Thailand**



**جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY
UAE**



TAHB, USA



**熊本大学
Kumamoto University
Japan**



**UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM
United Kingdom**



**McGill
UNIVERSITY**

Canada



USA



**UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO**



**University
of Manitoba
Canada**

**METROPOLITAN
UNIVERSITY PRAGUE**



**TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY**



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA**

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Silver Jubilee Award for Strategic Institution Partner in India by Deakin University

MAHE was conferred the Strategic Institution Partner Award in India by Deakin University Australia. To commemorate Deakin University's 25 years of engagement and commitment to India, Deakin University and Navitas, in association with the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (AUSTRADE), organized an array of events from 11th-15th March 2019 at New Delhi. A one-day international conference on 'Building World Class Universities: (Trans) formative Higher Education Spaces & Places' was organized on 11 March 2019. Dr H Vinod Bhat, Vice Chancellor, MAHE, was on the panel for the session 'Understanding India: Regulatory reforms and government engagement'. Deakin University has been one of MAHE's long standing partners since 2002. This journey of two decades has only strengthened the bonding between the two universities allowing us to explore opportunities for student and faculty exchanges, cotutelle doctoral programs, joint conferences and industry events.

NIRF ranking for MAHE

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a framework approved by the MHRD that uses a methodology to rank the universities across the country. Manipal Academy of Higher Education has been ranked 16th in the Overall category and 9th in the University category of the India Rankings 2019. NIRF evaluates the universities on five parameters viz., Teaching, Learning and Resources (TLR), Research and Professional Practice (RP), Graduation Outcomes (GO), Outreach and Inclusivity (OI) and Peer Perception (PP). Besides, MAHE has managed to reserve its position under the discipline specific rankings with Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences ranked 7th in Pharmacy and Kasturba Medical College Manipal and Mangalore ranked 7th and 16th respectively in Medical category and Manipal Institute of Technology, ranked 43rd in Engineering.

A landmark agreement with UNSW

University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia has committed to establishing a landmark partnership for education in India with MAHE for the purpose of delivering an uplift in articulation programs, pathways and grant revenue, while improving the scope for knowledge exchange, visiting fellowships and staff career development. UNSW and MAHE have jointly committed \$5M of seed funding to 2025 to deliver tangible outcomes and ensure the success of the partnership. MAHE and UNSW will jointly be venturing into various projects and ensure that the scope and deliverables are in alignment with each other. A core committee of 14 members from UNSW and MAHE has been formed to strategize and implement the programs and monitor the progress thereafter.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

IAESTE's Namaste Manipal event kicks off amidst much anticipation

Namaste Manipal is the flagship event of IAESTE India that is spread across a week, with multiple events, each bringing along a one of a kind experience. Sanskriti, Bollywood Night, The Ball, Scavenger Hunt, International Cuisine Night make up Namaste Manipal with each one bringing in a fresh new dimension to the festivities. Namaste Manipal is awaited eagerly by interns across the world and Local Committee members alike.

Belgian intern Emiel Ongenae's experience with IAESTE

Needless to say that deciding to go on an internship in India for ten weeks requires some courage, but spoiler alert: I got greatly rewarded for diving headfirst into this adventure. I couldn't have picked a more enriching destination to spend my entire summer. At the time I was in Manipal, about 60 other interns from all over the world were performing an IAESTE internship in Manipal, which lead to multiple international and lasting friendships and a whole lot of unforgettable moments of fun and laughter. Also, the role of the local committee in Manipal shouldn't be underestimated, they made sure that whenever we encountered some problem, it got solved in the blink of an eye. During my travels, I have hiked in the Himalayas, ridden a camel in the desert followed by a night under the stars, visited cities that accommodate more people than the entire country of Belgium, visited dozens of stunning temples and other massive monuments. I have never experienced a more enriching and satisfying summer ever before, all thanks to IAESTE.

Launch of Campus Ambassadors Manipal

Campus Ambassadors Manipal was officially launched, as supported by the Office of International Affairs & Collaborations (OIAC) in 2018. The motive behind this is to strengthen international and national student culture in MAHE by bringing together a



team of students from different academic disciplines and colleges across MAHE. Since its inception, CAM has also held a recruitment drive in 2020 and currently holds a strength of about 30 students from across Manipal. Students have been working on different projects such as the research portal MAESTRO, the Aula Magna newsletter, cultural events for the international student body, and the like.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

International Centre for Applied Sciences marked its silver jubilee



The International Centre for Applied Sciences (ICAS), last year celebrated its 25th year at MAHE. ICAS offers a 2+2 twinning programme in the field of engineering and provides an ideal platform for the students keen on pursuing Bachelors/Master's degree from universities abroad. The annual orientation of ICAS was clubbed with the silver jubilee celebrations on August 3, 2019. Her Excellency Susan Grace, Australian Consul-General, Chennai was invited as the Chief Guest. Mrs Vasanthi R Pai, Trustee, MAHE Trust and Dr H Vinod Bhat, Vice Chancellor, MAHE were the guests of honour.

Dr H S Ballal, Pro Chancellor, MAHE presided over the function. The delegates/partners from Australia, USA, UK were felicitated for their immense support and cooperation through this journey of ICAS. Madam Grace addressed the gathering that she is keen on strengthening bilateral relations between Australia and India in order to promote higher education opportunities for all Indian students in the leading universities of Australia. She also spoke about the advantages that international transfer programmes fetch to the students and eventually to the country.

The Vice-Chancellor spoke about the cross-cultural and multi-disciplinary opportunities that the students can avail if they have interest in the concerned field. Dr H S Ballal addressed the students, saying they need to acquire life-long learning skills and problem-solving skills to deal with the major issues that the world is facing today.



UNSW-MAHE Partnership: a journey through the eyes of Mr Rhys Palmer

*Rhys Palmer, Head of International
Affairs, UNSW Sydney*

It was my great pleasure to visit MAHE for the first time in July last year when accompanying our Pro Vice-Chancellor International, Laurie Pearcey and our Dean of UNSW Engineering, Professor Mark Hoffman to Manipal.

I have been to India many times but mostly to the big cities of Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai. I have always wanted to experience the 'real' India, outside of these major metropolises, and the opportunity to visit Manipal was exciting and certainly lived up to my expectations!

On arrival we were treated to the amazing MAHE Experience Theatre and we all commented how envious we were that UNSW Sydney did not have a similar experience! In December we were delighted to host a reciprocal visit by MAHE to UNSW during which Dr H Vinod Bhat, Vice-Chancellor, MAHE and Professor Ian Jacobs, President and Vice-Chancellor, UNSW Sydney signed the agreement for our ground-breaking UNSW-MAHE partnership. Returning to MAHE in April this year, I had the honour of leading a 16-member delegation from UNSW. This inaugural Faculty visit, which I believe was the largest international delegation to visit MAHE, began laying the foundations of our major teaching and learning partnership through focussed discussions on articulation programs, research collaboration, student mobility, visiting fellowships and staff career development. Again, we received a very warm welcome and I thank Vice-Chancellor Bhat for his confidence and commitment that our new partnership will transform lives through research and education, prepare students for the future and make a significant contribution to India-Australia relations. The two-day visit was a wonderful opportunity for us to get to know each other better, both professionally and socially. A highlight for me was the delicious food and exceptional service delivered by students of the Department of Culinary Arts during the Gala Dinner hosted by the Vice Chancellor. The students received a standing ovation from all of us at the conclusion of the dinner! I am very much looking forward to further progress this partnership between our two great universities. In fact, MAHE and the beautiful city of Manipal is fast becoming my home away from home.



My experience with Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Donna E. Howard Dr PH,

Associate Professor,

Behavioural and Community Health

Ever since I was a visiting Fulbright Scholar within the Department of Community Medicine at MAHE in 2008, I have been inspired, impassioned and determined to build on this relationship.

Beginning in 2010, I have been bringing University of Maryland, College Park students to MAHE for an immersion experience framed around the organization and practice of public health within an Indian context. I am continually impressed with the integrity of the institution, its commitment to campus-community partnerships and education of the next generation of public health leaders. The unwavering passion of the faculty, both to the communities they serve and to student pedagogy and mentoring, is awe-inspiring. MAHE is a remarkable institution and I entrust the leadership, faculty and staff with safeguarding the well-being of my students and providing a nurturing environment for them to learn and grow.

MAHE is continually striving for excellence and this energy and enthusiasm is palpable and contagious. I could not agree more. I am forever indebted to Dr. Vinod Bhat who approved my Fulbright application, made it possible for me to spend those first formative 4.5 months at MAHE, and who continually supports this study abroad program.

"Upon return from our study abroad at MAHE my students repeatedly remark that the trip was magical and transformative,"

Given Dr Howard's words towards Maryland students' appreciation for the educational environment at MAHE, here are some feedback from these students

This experience has been extremely eye-opening. I admired the teaching style of the professors here, they seem to be more concerned with making sure the information is well received.

I really enjoyed the program and I learned a lot. I liked the lectures but I especially appreciated the field visits, particularly the health treatment centers and the water/pasteurization plants.

The lectures were all informative and filled with examples to enhance our understanding. The best part of this has been the opportunity to reflect and contemplate the information and how it relates to what I already know rather than focussing on what information to remember for the examinations

I have been very impressed with the depth and breadth of the lectures and the field visits. I have really enjoyed the wide variety of places visited and topics discussed relevant to public health.

I am so thankful of the opportunity I've been given to see India's culture and healthcare system through MAHE.

Vice Chancellor's Oration by Dr Prof Ian Jacobs, UNSW, Australia

Manipal Academy of Higher Education organized its first Vice Chancellor's Oration on 14 Dec 2019. Prof Dr Ian Jacobs, President and Vice Chancellor, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia delivered the inaugural oration entitled 'Progress in screening for Ovarian Cancer' at the Manipal School of Life Sciences auditorium, Manipal.



Vice Chancellor Dr H Vinod Bhat said that this was a first of its kind initiative in India and was elated that the first inaugural award was being conferred to Prof Jacobs who has been a good friend of MAHE and supported the MAHE-UNSW partnership in every possible way. Prof Jacob in his message addressing the students and staff of UNSW, proudly mentions about his visit to Manipal, India and the oration as below - "While in India, I also visited Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) for the first time. UNSW has entered into a landmark partnership with MAHE to promote academic and educational exchange and joint research collaborations. While there, I was honoured to deliver the inaugural 'Vice-Chancellor's Oration' on 'Progress in screening for Ovarian Cancer' and to join the Dean of Medicine to discuss a collaboration with MAHE's School of Public Health on clinical trials in cervical cancer in the state of Karnataka"

Ambassador Amit Dasgupta visits MAHE



Ambassador Amit Dasgupta, Country Director, UNSW India Centre, New Delhi visited MAHE to discuss the way forward on the ongoing strategic partnership with University of New South Wales, Australia. He visited the Department of Commerce, Manipal Centre for Humanities and Manipal School of Architecture and Planning to discuss the ongoing

strategic partnership with University of New South Wales, Australia. He visited the Department of commerce, Manipal Centre for Humanities and Manipal School of Architecture and Planning to discuss the ongoing research projects that the two universities have been jointly working on. He visited the Department of Geopolitics & International Relations on 7 Mar 2020 and addressed the students on 'New Challenges for Old Diplomacy'. Students and staff of the department were present for the talk. Dr Arvind Kumar, Head, Department of Geopolitics & International Relations and Mr Seshadri Chari, Strategic and Foreign Policy Analyst were present along with other faculty members of the department.

Inauguration of MAHE Erasmus MC Center (MECGS) and International Symposium on Genome Instability

MAHE-Erasmus MC Center on Genome Stability (MECGS) and International Symposium on Genome Instability: from bench to bedside was inaugurated at the Manipal School of Life Sciences (MSLS) Auditorium, MAHE at Manipal on Tuesday (28-01-2020) by the Pro-Chancellor of MAHE, Dr HS Ballal, in the presence of Prof. Roland



Kanaar (Head, Molecular Genetics, Erasmus MC, the Netherlands), Prof. K Satyamoorthy (Director, MSLS, MAHE), Dr. Arnab Ray Chaudhuri (Assistant Professor, Molecular Genetics, Erasmus MC, the Netherlands) and Dr. Sanjiban Chakrabarty (Assistant Professor, MSLS, Manipal). The symposium organized by MSLS ran from January 28th to 29th, 2020. Eminent researchers in the field of DNA repair and genome instability, Prof. Jan Hoeijmakers, Prof. Roland Kanaar, Prof. Wim Vermeulen, Dr. Jurgen Martijn, Dr. Dik van Gent, Dr. Arnab Ray Chaudhuri, Dr. Nitika Taneja, Dr. Arjan Theil from Erasmus University Medical Center, the Netherlands and Prof. V. Nagaraja, IISC, Prof. Ganesh Nagaraju, IISC, Dr. Sagar Sengupta, NII, Dr. Birija Sankar Patro, BARC, Dr. Manas Kumar Santra, NCCS, Dr. Arshdeep Sidhu, NITTE, Dr. Aprotim Mazumdar, TIFR,

Hyderabad, Dr. Asima Mukhopadhyay, Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata attended the symposium and delivered lectures. Inaugurating the symposium, Dr. Ballal spoke of the genesis of the Manipal School of Life Sciences based on the need to develop a new scientific knowledge, as part of the university's goal to be ranked higher among world universities. He lauded the team at MSLS for bringing together the renowned delegates for this two-day symposium and inauguration of MAHE-Erasmus MC Center on Genome Stability (MECGS). In his presidential address, Prof Roland Kanaar listed the specific goals of the MECGS and more importantly the aim of the symposium – to promote networking among the delegates from India and the Netherlands. This, he said, will improve collaborations of complementary nature. Dr. Sanjiban Chakrabarty (Assistant Professor, MSLS) welcomed the gathering and Dr. Arnab Ray Chaudhuri (Erasmus MC) gave an overview on the genesis of MECGS. Dr. Shama Prasada K (Associate Professor, MSLS) delivered the vote of thanks. Speakers from India and the Netherlands have presented their work in the area of genome stability during the symposium, which also included oral and poster presentations by young researchers. The symposium was sponsored by Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Board of Radioactivity and Nuclear Sciences (BRNS), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Government of India, MAHE, Manipal, and funding from ThermoFisher Scientific, Eppendorf, Tarsons, Sri Mahalasa Agencies, Sri Durga Laboratory.

Dr Roland Kanaar on MAHE-Erasmus collaboration

Anupama John, Anushka Chhikara



Among the bright scientific minds at the Symposium for Genome Stability, was Dr Roland Kanaar, the head of the Department of Molecular Genetics, University Medical Centre Rotterdam.

After the symposium and cultural events of the day, Anushka Chhikara, of CAM, had the privilege to sit down with the researcher following to pick his mind and gather

his views “It was something symbolic, made you feel much more of a connection and that was really nice,” Dr Roland said, describing prayers and lighting of the lamp with which the opening ceremony was inaugurated. In addition, he enjoyed experiencing the cultural

diversity of the country, that was exhibited through the play and dances organised in the symposium. The level of knowledge exhibited by the students of MAHE in the field was also well appreciated as the renowned researcher recounted the interactions he had had with the poster presentation participants. The objective of organizing the symposium, as put forward by Dr. Roland, was to create an expertise centre in collaboration between MAHE and Erasmus University Medical Centre, specifically in the Department of Molecular Genetics. Joining forces with MAHE shall enable them to further their studies owing not only to the combination of expertise in the clinics, but also due to the exposure to a different gene pool, ie, group of patients having a different genetic background. Dr. Roland considers this to be a 'mutually beneficial enterprise' and a collaboration that he looks forward to.

Occupational therapy: from Australia to India

Andrea Gonsalves, Robin Cherian

Members of CAM, Andrea and Robin met and interacted with the friendly interns from Australia. The team comprised interns of occupational therapy students, here in Manipal for a 3-week clinical posting at Manipal College of Health Professions in the Department of Occupational Therapy.



"We chose Manipal mainly for the experience of a different culture. We wanted to see how Occupational Therapy is practiced outside Australia. Different countries have different healthcare systems in place. We were lucky enough to witness what Manipal has to offer," said one of the interns, happy to share her experience.

"Before coming here, some of us have set goals like getting to know the culture here. We plan to use the knowledge we gain here back home in Australia while treating similar patients with the same amount of respect and sensitivity," an intern shared.

A point that was made was that students were slightly more advantaged here as compared to back home in Australia considering here they get early access to clinical postings as compared to Australian students who only get clinical experience after the third year.

An international seminar on healthy ageing

Apoorva Anurag



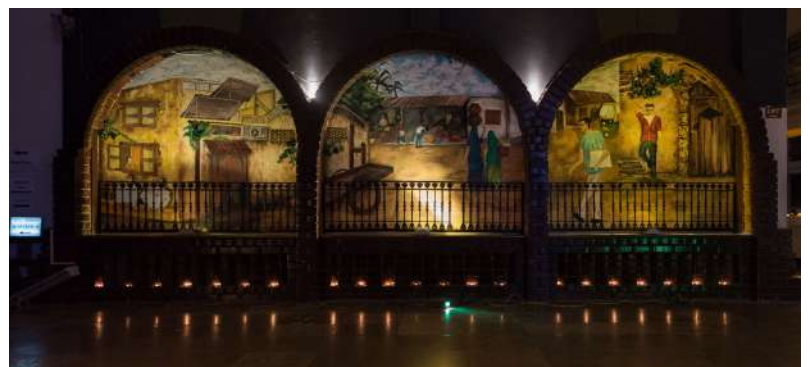
On 31st January 2020, the International Seminar on Healthy Ageing was organized jointly by MAHE, Manipal and Maastricht University, Netherlands. Distinguished dignitaries from University of South Australia, Maastricht University (Netherlands), HelpAge India, TISS Mumbai and Aruwe (Chennai) graced the solemn occasion and put across their views. With the advancement of

medical technology and increase in per capita income, life expectancy of general population has increased. Present life expectancy of an average Indian is approximately 68 years, whereas in 1947 it was hardly 39 years. If increase in life expectancy is a boon to humans, it also entails numerous challenges for the old age. Economic advancement gave way to individual aspirations leading to breaking up of joint family system, which once acted as safety valve for the aged population. Hence, many community programs and events are being thought of and implemented for them. Public health experts are involved to counsel them on age related issues. Social scientists, public health workers as well as young children are being given space for interacting with the elderly. MAHE Manipal and Maastricht University, Netherlands with their excellent rapport have designed such programs which caters to theoretical aspects and practical field-training in the academia.

International Association of Lighting Designers illuminates campus

A two-day workshop by IALD (International Association of Lighting Designers) was conducted on 21st and 22nd February 2020 at Manipal School of Architecture and Planning, to promote the advancement and recognition of professional lighting

designers. IALD is an internationally recognized organization dedicated to independent, professional lighting designers. The IALD strives to set a global standard for lighting design excellence by promoting the advancement and recognition of



professional lighting designers. The IALD team of professionals led by Mr Amardeep Duggar consisted of eight lighting designers, trained from various esteemed universities across the world with many years of experience in the field and eight professional vendors co-ordinated with Dr Prof Deepika Shetty, Director, Manipal School of Architecture and Planning, MAHE creating an opportunity for the students of MSAP and MIT (E.E.) to interact with each other in a learning experience and completely transform the college through lighting aids under the guidance of mentors, guides and technicians. The workshop provided a platform for professional designers and students to interact in an educational environment. The collective of light installations designed by the students and professionals elaborated the lighting design process, while publically demonstrating how built environments can be enhanced through good lighting design.

Manipal Academic Exchange and Student Traineeship for Research Outreach

Sanjana Harlalka

MAESTRO, (Manipal Academic Exchange and Student Traineeship for Research Outreach) is a unique online portal where the selected best projects across all specialties and departments of the university are uploaded for foreign students to apply and receive an opportunity to experience what Manipal beholds. This portal establishes an international presence of the credibility and heritage of MAHE. Reducing the



distance between quality education and its reapers, MAESTRO brings students closer to their goals. It facilitates cross-cultural exchanges to allow the revolution of novel ideas and innovation. This portal is an entry to the finest research projects of our esteemed faculty that could change the future of science and technology.

Campus Ambassador Manipal Induction

Ranjeeth Krishna

The induction ceremony for the new batch of campus ambassadors for MAHE for this year was conducted in the evening of 22nd February at KEF auditorium, MIT. A total of 33 new recruits were welcomed into the program by the existing members and the faculty.

Campus Ambassador Manipal is a program established in 2017 by MAHE in collaboration with the OIAC. A Campus Ambassador is the face and voice of MAHE. The basic function of the Campus Ambassadors is to promote MAHE and build relationships with prospective and current international students, whilst taking care of



their needs in Manipal during the duration of their stay. "We here at CAM are a very close-knit family, and we have been constantly working towards more professional and versatile growth of all our members through our endeavours. Having already had two successful year-long terms we thought of giving the incoming members, for the year 2020, a grand welcome to the organisation. This formal event was an opportunity for the newly inducted Campus Ambassadors to meet the people they'd be working with and also for the staff to meet the people who'd be handling the working of CAM in the long run." said Shresth Raj, current president of CAM.

The event started with the welcome address delivered by the president of CAM, followed by an address towards new members by Dr. Karunakar. The other delegates included Dr. Shashidhar, Dr. MV Kini, Dr. Vidya Saraswati and Ms. Shantala. Appointment letters were handed out to all the core members and newcomers by the delegates.

The ceremony concluded with the culmination speech by Dr. Raghu Radhakrishnan, Director International Collaborations, after which all the delegates were gifted with potted plants as a sign of appreciation

Working in quarantine: CAM core committee



The core committee of CAM continued their weekly meetings through video calling to discuss how the body will continue to run during this time of quarantine and uncertainty. If nothing else, it reminded us that though we might not all be in Manipal in these times, we are still together and functioning as ever.