

SHASTRI INDO-CANADIAN INSTITUTE

SHASTRI INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

Autumn Edition

2015

5 Bhai Vir Singh Marg, New Delhi- 110001, India

Message from President

Dear CMC and IMC Members,
Greetings!

The fiscal year 2015-16 was full of hopes and new changes in the programme line. The programmes planned for the year were announced by both the Offices in due time-frame. While, the programmes designed for the year 2015-16 remained same on Canadian front, Indian programmes were new in composition and strategy based on our new funding proposal to MHRD.

SICI Programmes for 2015-16

SICI, Canada office announced following programmes: Shastri Research Grant (SRG), Shastri Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant (SSTSG), SICI Student Internship Project in Aid (SSIP in Aid), SICI Partnership Seed Grant in Aid (SSPG in Aid) and Membership Development Fund (MDF). There was enthusiastic response and large number of applications from a majority of members. The bi-national adjudication committees, as always, provided stellar honorary service to SICI by providing independent review of the applications and provided their ranking to the SICI. Based on this review process, the results were announced on 15th December 2015. In summary, Canada office granted 39 awards under different categories as mentioned above in a wide range of disciplines from Electrical Engineering, Chemistry, Food Security, Veterinary Medicine, Mechanical Engineering, Medical Sciences, Literature to Languages, Environmental Science, Social Science and Health Sciences. The grant recipients also came from CMC member Institutions across Canada, such as University of Toronto, University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Queens University, Université du Québec à Montréal, York University, University of Saskatchewan, University of Ottawa, McMaster University, University of Lethbridge, Wilfred Laurier University, University of Western Ontario, University of Toronto, University of Alberta, University of Calgary, Ecole de Technologie, University of Manitoba, St. Thomas University, University of Guelph, Concordia University, McGill University, Carleton University and Laval University.

India Office of SICI also announced its programmes in October 2015 with the interim funds released by the MHRD, government of India pending the assessment and approval of new MOU between SICI and MHRD for renewed funding for the next five years. The programs announced were: Shastri Institutional Collaborative Research Grant (SICRG), Shastri Mobility Programme (SMP), and Shastri Research Student Fellowship (SRSF). The applications were received from across the country and the bi-national adjudication committees once again did wonderful service in independent assessment and ranking of all applications. The results are in the process of being announced by the India office. The Institute plans in future to add new subject areas for support in its ambit like Renewable Energy, Agricultural science/ Technology, Environmental Sciences, Teacher education and training,

Health Science Education and Nursing, Marine Sciences and Ocean Studies.

Meetings & Networking

In the month of June 2015, I attended the Quebec Government's official luncheon-meeting to welcome the Consul General of India in Toronto Shri Akhilesh Mishra in Quebec city, which was followed by a private reception for him with Indian community in Quebec City. In November 2015, along with EC member Margaret Walton-Roberts, I met the ASSOCHAM delegation from India in Ottawa and explored the possibility of collaboration with some of its members especially in the areas of Skills development. It was in this visit that both of us were also invited to give presentations: I presented the activities and important role of SICI and Indian Diaspora (of Indian and non-Indian origin) in increasing Canada-India educational collaborations over last half a century at the "Diaspora Symposium" of the 7th Canadian Science Policy Conference in Ottawa. During this meeting, I was also interviewed by the organizers for my views on this subject which can be seen at the SICI website or at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEiIWFTyG0Q>. I was able to utilize this and other opportunities in Ottawa to attend MITACS Award Ceremony and meet numerous other stakeholders to discuss with them about SICI. In addition, I had an invitation to attend a Liberal Party Conference to meet many new Federal Ministers, new members of the parliament and other important players in the new government as a part of our continued efforts to secure funding for SICI Canada operations for the next five years.

I am very pleased to inform you that due to persistent efforts and discussion since February 2015, two of our former member Institutions, namely University of Carleton and University of Ottawa decided to rejoin the SICI family by renewing their membership in appreciation of our longstanding and mutually beneficial relationships with these institutions. We also have welcomed a new member: École de Technologie Supérieure (ETS) of Montreal in the SICI family this year and are at an advanced stage of discussion with two more potential members in the SICI family, namely MacEwan University of Edmonton, Alberta and Royal Roads University of Victoria, British Columbia. In summary our family is growing in size and also in reputation towards a confident march towards our upcoming Golden Jubilee in less than 2 years.

Sincerely,



Dr. Girish M. Shah
President, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute
Professor, Faculty of Medicine
Laval University

Shastri Activities

▪ Awards & Grants

Canada Office, Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute has announced results for the year 2015-16 for Shastri Student Internship Project (SSIP) , *Shastri Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant*(SSTS), Shastri Research Grant (SRG) and Membership Development Fund (MDF).

List of SSIP in AID 2015-16 Grant Awardees

Sr. No.	Name and Institution of Applicant	Department & Major Subjects	Affiliation to Indian Institutions	Departure/Arrival dates	Name of Internship project
1	Ramanpreet Kaur University of Western Ontario(Grad)	Dept. of Modern Languages and Literatures Arts & Humanities	Dept. of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University	ETD to India May 2016 ETA in Canada August 2016	Punjabi Adaptations of European Drama (1914-2014): Understanding the Interplay between Text and Performance
2	Victoria Sheldon University of Toronto	Dept. of Anthropology	University of Kerala	ETD to India February 1, 2016 ETA in Canada April 30, 2016	The Historical-Political Basis of Gandhian Imagery in the Rise of 'Nature Cure' Treatments for Lifestyle Diseases in post Development Kerala, south India
3	Aaron Mooi University of Saskatchewan (UG)	Veterinary Medicine	University of Kerala - College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur District, Kerala	ETD to India May 5, 2016 ETA in Canada June 16, 2016	One-Health Initiative in Southern India: Participating to Enhance Public Health, Productivity, and Animal Welfare through Veterinary Medicine initiatives
4	Alexandra Malkowski University of Saskatchewan (UG)	Veterinary Medicine	University of Kerala - College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur District, Kerala	ETD May 5, 2016 ETA June 16, 2016	One Healthy Initiative in Southern India: Participating to Enhance Public Health, Productivity, and animal Welfare Through Animal Medicine Initiatives
5	Jennifer Pelchat University of Saskatchewan (UG)	Veterinary Medicine	University of Kerala - College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur District, Kerala	ETD to India May 5, 2016 ETA in Canada June 16, 2016	One Healthy Initiative in Southern India: Participating to Enhance Public Health, Productivity, and animal Welfare Through Animal Medicine Initiatives
6	Julia Wyatt University of Saskatchewan (UG)	Veterinary Medicine	University of Kerala - College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur District, Kerala	ETD to India May 5, 2016 ETA in Canada June 16, 2016	One Healthy Initiative in Southern India: Participating to Enhance Public Health, Productivity, and animal Welfare Through Animal Medicine Initiatives
7	Nurmaiya Brady University of Alberta (Grad)	Human Geography (specialization in Development Geography) – social science	Indian Institute for Human Development	ETD to India: November, 2015 ETA in Canada: December 2015	An Exploratory Analysis of Self-help Groups: An Alternative Mode of Public Service Delivery in Rural India
8	Nidhi Panwar University of Calgary (Grad)	Department of Political Science	School for International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	ETD to India July 2015 ETA in Canada August 2015	Communalism and Terrorism in India

9	Karissa Mitchell University of Saskatchewan (UG)	Veterinary Medicine	University of Kerala- College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy, Thrissur District, Kerala	ETD to India May 5, 2015 ETA in Canada June 16, 2015	One Health Initiative in Southern India: Participating to Enhance Public Health, Productivity, and Animal Welfare Through Veterinary Medicine Initiatives
10	Philip Lagace University of Saskatchewan (Grad)	Interdisciplinary: Philosophy, Anthropology, Language Studies	Assam University	ETD to India May 1, 2016 ETA in Canada August 21, 2016	Relationship of Language and Consciousness

List of SSTSG Awardees 2015-16

Sr. No.	Name of Applicant	Visiting/Partnering Indian	Start Date	End Date	Topic of Presentation/Training
1	Lee Wilson University of Saskatchewan	Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai	December 1, 2015 Or May 1, 2016	December 30, 2015 or May 30, 2016	New Approaches to Green & Sustainable Chemistry
2	Martin Cloutier L'Université du Québec à Montréal	Centre for Economic and Social Studies	March 20, 2016	April 3, 2016	Food Security Technological Change and Practice: A Shared Framework for an Action Roadmap
3	Minawatie Singh York University	University of Baroda	April 7, 2016	April 20, 2016	Marriage and Acculturation in Canada of Young Couples
4	Sean McGrath - Memorial University of Newfoundland	Jawaharlal Nehru University	February 15, 2016	February, 21 2016	All individuation Begins in Negation: the Middle Schelling on Identity
5	Sonia Gulati University of Ottawa	Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar	April 15, 2016	May 5, 2016	International Health and Community Development
6	Jubinville Yves L'Université du Québec à Montréal	SNDT Women University, Mumbai	October 22, 2015	November 2, 2015	H13-Preparation of a round-table on Hijra identity to be held in February 2016 - Preparation of a round-table on Hijra identity to be held in February 2016 -Discussion with Dr. Mitra Parikh on 3 internships with SNDT students to UQAM for February to April 2016
7	Rama Singh McMaster University	University of Mysore	November 21, 2015	January 9, 2016	Why males? Male driven sexual selection a force of rapid evolutionary change from molecules in man
8	Nalini Mohabir York University	Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts	November 18, 2015	November 30, 2015	1) To attend and present at the Second International Conference on Ramlila Epic Processes: Mobility, Patronage and Aesthetics

9	Peruvemba Sundaram Ravi Wilfrid Laurier University	University of Kerala	December 14, 2015	December 26, 2015	A proof of the Coffman-Sethi Conjecture
10	George Gonzalez University of Lethbridge	IIM Bangalore	January 12, 2016	May 14, 2016	1) "Bonus Versus Penalty Contracts; The Value of Choice" 2) "The Use of Personality Factors to Predict Fraud Tendencies"
11	Kirk Anderson Memorial University of Newfoundland	Institute of Technology, Nirma University	May 25, 2016	June 26, 2016	Higher Order Thinking Skills and Blended Learning
12	Basanti Majumdar McMaster University	Manipal University, India	December 15, 2015	March 30, 2016	Application of Participatory Research in Community

Waitlisted Awardees who received awards in 2015-16

13	Kanchan Sarker University of British Columbia	Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata	December 4, 2015	December 30, 2015	Food Security in India: Looking for Best Possible Ways
14	Raymond Poirier Memorial University of Newfoundland	Chatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University	October 29, 2015	December 3, 2015	Visiting Department of Chemistry, Memorial University of Newfoundland for one month to carry out collaborative Research work on Amino glycoside modifying Enzymes

Note: Dr. Sean McGrath of MUN declined SSTSG award this year for personal reason. The total numbers of awards given away under SSTSG are 13 only.

List of SRG awardees 2015-16

Sr. No.	Name and Institution of Lead Applicant	Name and Institution of Co- Applicant	Research Topic
1	Ramin Farnood University of Toronto	Vivek Kumar Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	Novel Treatment Technology for High Salinity Water Using Membrane Distillation.
2	Aloke Kumar University of Alberta	Suman Chakraborty Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	Non-Invasive Disruption of Bacterial Bio-fouling Using Electro-kinetics.
3	Anne Murphy University of British Columbia	Chander Mohan Punjab University	Early Modern Punjabi: Assessing the Archives
4	Neha Gupta Memorial University of Newfoundland	Rupendra Kumar Chattopadhyay University of Calcutta	Northern Odisha Archaeological Project (NOAP): Geovisual Perspectives on Change and Continuity in the Baitarani River Valley
5	Andrea Hemmerich Queen's University	Nancy Fernandes Pereira S.N.D.T. Women's University	The effects of Labor and Birth Positioning on Pelvic Dimensions: Gaining Further Insight to Improve the Birth Experience

Waitlisted Awardees who received awards in 2015-16

6	Pierre Belanger Ecole de Technologie	Prabhu Rajagopal Indian Institute of Technology Madras	Transducer Development for Ultrasonic Guided Wave Assessment of the Mechanical Properties of the Human Radius Bone
7	Hartmut M. Hollaender University of Manitoba	Sudhindra Nath Panda Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur	Sustainable Land and Groundwater Management Policies for Coastal Ecosystems of Eastern India.
8	Carey A. Watt St. Thomas University	Abhijit Gupta Jadavpur University, Kolkata	More than Muscle: Eugen Sandow's Tour of India in 1904-05
9	Craig Johnson University of Guelph	Rathin Roy National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Delhi	Inter-Municipal Co-operation and Fragmentation In Large Metropolitan Region in India: Mapping and Identifying Constraints in Co-operation Around Water
10	Ajoy Basak University of Ottawa	Anil Jacob Purty Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, affiliated to Pondicherry University	Novel Inhibitors and Protease Activity Assay of human PCSK9: Implications for Intervention of Hypercholesterolemia and Associated Cardiovascular Disease

Member Development Fund (MDF) Grant 2015-16

Sr. No.	Name of Recipient	Date of Event	Purpose/ Project
1	Dr. Jill Didur Concordia University	September 11-13 and October 2-4, 2015	5th Annual Kabir/Concordia South Asian Film Festival
2	Dr. Madhav Badami McGill University	Late January-early February 2016	Dr. Sharad Lele over to Montreal from Waterloo
3	Dr. Caroly Ford Western University	September 24, 2015	SICI 2015-16 Program- Information Presentation
4	Dr. Pauline Rankin Carleton University	February 4, 2016	A -List event at Carleton University
5	Dr. Girish Shah Laval University	October 13, 2015	SICI 2015-16 Program- Information Presentation
6	Dr. Braj Sinha Saskatchewan University	September 24, 2015	Indian High Commissioner's visit to Saskatchewan University

Member Activities

1. Jawaharlal Nehru University

Centre for Canadian, US and Latin American Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University in association with Le Bureau du Québec à Mumbai had a film festival titled 'Shifting Identities and Intercultural Relations in Québec' on Thursday, 29th October, 2015 at 1.30 PM at the School of Arts And Aesthetics Auditorium in Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Three films, 'Black Robe', Mon Oncle Antoine (My Uncle Antoine) and Monsieur Lazhar (Mr. Lazhar) were screened with an introduction given by Professor Marie McAndrew (Visiting Faculty from Faculty of Education, University of Montreal).

2. University of Delhi

Centre for Canadian Studies, DU released a new publication, *Gender and Diversity: India, Canada and Beyond*, edited by Professor Malashri Lal, Professor Chandra Mohan, Professor Enakshi Sharma, Professor Devika Narula and Professor Amrit Basra, published by Rawat Publications of Jaipur (2015). Professor Dinesh Singh, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi and H.E. Mr. Nadir Patel, High Commissioner for Canada in India launched the book at a function held at India International Centre on 15th October 2015. Distinguished litterateur Professor Indra Nath Choudhuri presided over the function. Eminent scholars and Canadianists from Montreal, Toronto, University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Indira Gandhi National Open University and Padam Vibhusan Madam Kapila Vatsayayan, Chair-Asia Project IIC, Air Marshal Naresh Varma, Director-India International Centre, Dr. Prachi Kaul, Acting Director-Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and a large number of research students and faculty members graced the occasion with their presence.



The book contains twenty scholarly essays reflecting the connections between India, Canada and other countries in a dynamic global study projecting a modern perspective on contemporary challenges of gender, morality, identity formation, human rights and policy formation, among other prominent conflict areas. The contributors include Professors Sneja Gunew, Jasbir Jain, Malashri Lal, Sushma Yadav, Jameela Begum, Chandra Mohan, Devika Narula and Amrit Basra. The book will prove useful to scholars in Comparative Literature, International Relations, Political Science and Education among other areas.

3. Pondicherry University

Dr. H. Kalpana, Associate Professor, Pondicherry university, presented a paper "An Investigation of African-American Women's writing," in the panel, excavating the Voice: Literature of Nineteenth-Century African-American Women on May 1, 2015 at the 46th annual NEMLA conference in Toronto, Canada and was awarded the post of visiting research fellow at University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

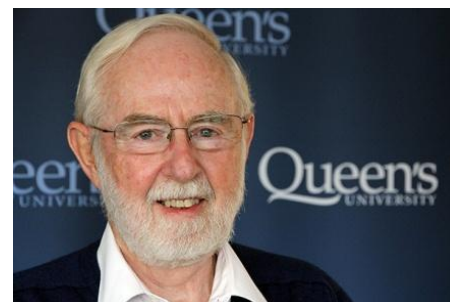


She was Visiting Research fellow for one month at the Dept. of Literature, History of ideas and Religion. University of Gothenburg, Sweden (May 20-June 21, 2015). During her stay Dr. Kalpana presented papers in seminars i.e. "Religio, Literature and Freedom of Speech' with special reference to Perumal Murugan. The paper was reported in *Innehåll i Karavan*. Another paper presented during the seminar was "Identity and Culture: Postcolonial Perspectives in Select South Asian Literature". For more details [click here](#)

4. Queens University, Canada

Professor emeritus Arthur McDonald, Queen's University, is the co-winner of Nobel Prize in physics 2015. Dr. McDonald won the award, along with Takaaki Kajita of the University of Tokyo, "for their key contributions to the experiments which demonstrated that neutrinos change identities." Dr. McDonald received the call from the Nobel committee at 5 am adding that he immediately had a feeling of "tremendous accomplishment by our team."

"I am truly honoured to receive the Nobel Prize in physics," Dr. McDonald says. It was a momentous day not only for Dr. McDonald but for Queen's as well. Dr. McDonald arrived at Queen's in 1989, was the inaugural Gordon and Patricia Gray Chair in Particle Astrophysics and served as the director of SNO, now known as SNOLAB. Dr. McDonald has been a professor emeritus since 2013. He earned his PhD in 1969 from the California Institute of Technology.



Publications

Professor M. P. Singh, who is a twice Shastri Research Fellow published his two books.

- i. Singh, M.P. & Saxena, Rekha, *Federalising India in the Age of Globalisation*, New Delhi: Primus Books, 2013; and
- ii. Singh, M.P. & Kukreja, Veenu, *Federalism in South Asia*, New Delhi: Routledge, 2014.

His one paper on 'Decline of Parliament in India' got published in *India Review* (a Francis & Taylor Journal American journal) in 2015; and a chapter on 'Intergovernmental Relations in India' in a book in "*The Global Dialogue on Federalism*", Delhi: Oxford University Press ,2015.

Upcoming Events: India & Canada

Aboriginal North America and Europe: Strengthening connections

This interdisciplinary international conference will be taking place on **November 11 – 13, 2016**, at the Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan (Poland). Proposals for 20-minute papers, 60-minute interactive workshops, round-table discussions, poetry and prose readings are currently accepted and must be 250-word-long, accompanied with a brief CV must be submitted to the conference secretaries Katarzyna Burzyńska or Kornelia Boczkowska at: strengtheningconnections Poznan@gmail.com. The deadline for proposals is **April 15, 2016**. [For more information click here.](#)

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