



# July 2024

## **Announcement of Programmes 2024-25**

## **Apply Now!**

Currently, SICI is inviting applications for below provided programmes.We look forward to seeing the winners' successes in the coming years. Detailed information about each programme can be found by clicking on the links of each programme.

SICI-USASK Semester in India (ASII) Project 2024-25 Deadline: August 11, 2024 |11:00 pm (MST)

Shastri Student Research in India Fellowships (SSRIF) 2024-25 Deadline: September 1, 2024 (MDT)

#### Shastri Scholar Travel Subsidy Grants (SSTSG) 2024-25

Deadline: August 18, 2024 |11:00 pm (MDT)

## **Results Out!**

We are delighted to present the outcome of the **Agri-Cluster's Programmes 2023-24**. Our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes go out to all the Agri-Cluster's Programmes 2023-24 winners!

Results are available from https://www.shastriinstitute.org/Result-Agri-Cluster-2023-24 Winners list: https://www.shastriinstitute.org/sites/default/files/Result-Agri-Cluster-2023-24.pdf

Visit our website for more details

## What's Fresh?

#### **Canadian Members' Council (CMC) Meeting**



The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's (SICI) Canadian Members Council (CMC) meeting was successfully held on June 21 at the University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. After several years of online meetings due to COVID-19, this year's CMC meeting was conducted in a hybrid format. Representatives from SICI's Canadian member institutions participated in the meeting.

The meeting was presided over by SICI President, Prof. Pavneesh Madan from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. SICI's Vice President/President-Elect, Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Vice Chancellor of NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, India, joined the meeting virtually. The agenda covered SICI programmes and activities and key initiatives for the upcoming year were outlined.



## **Appreciative Enquiry Workshop**

Dr. Meenal Srivastava, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, facilitated an '**Appreciative Enquiry Workshop**' on the sidelines of the CMC meeting in Ottawa. Mr Ken Hoffman, an excellent facilitator, did a great job of reminding the executive council and the board members of SICI's collective strengths. The workshop was a success and the board was able to set clear goals and strategies for the SICI.

## **A SICI-Hosted Official Dinner Reception**



Despite political challenges, SICI continues to bridge educational communities between Canada and India by fostering academic collaborations, scientific and cultural exchanges. The Institute remains a beacon of unity, promoting shared knowledge and innovation.

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute hosted the dinner reception for its member representatives and stakeholders during its annual meeting of "Canadian Members' Council". The reception was an opportunity for the Institute to thank its members and stakeholders for their continued commitment and support.

A big thank you to Jean-Philippe Tachdjian, Executive Director, International Education at Global Affairs Canada and the Global Affairs Canada, and Mr. Chinmoy Naik, Deputy High Commissioner of India, for their unwavering support to the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute over the past 55 years.

### New members joining the council

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)- The ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET) has joined the SICI Member Council in April, 2024. We welcome the institute on board. We look forward to their contribution to the SICI's mission and goals.

### Meet and greet with Shastri Alberta Students in India (SASI) Interns -Canada



At a special meet and greet event organized by Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI), Canada office where the students had the wonderful opportunity to connect with one another and engage with SICI officials before departing for India to avail their Internships. The first cohort of 17 students from post-secondary institutions across Alberta has embarked on an enriching 8-week study-work internship in India. The exposure and expertise garnered through this Internship will define their professional outlook and make them truly global in approach. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Alberta for its unwavering support to make this programme possible.

We were honored to have Mr. Amitabh Ranjan, Consul Commerce, who joined us to address and inspire our interns. The interns were delighted to be a part of this event and were very excited to start their journey with their host institutions. SICI looks forward to their successful internship and hearing their stories of growth and development.

The host institutions of these interns are Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, Christ University, Bangalore, Institute For Development And Communication, Chandigarh & Chandigarh University, and Malaviya National Institute of Technology Jaipur.

#### Interaction with Shastri Alberta Students in India Interns (SASI) at SICI, New Delhi



The Shastri Alberta Students in India (SASI) interns arrived in Delhi on June 28, 2024, and are now settled at their respective institutions. Before leaving for their host institutions, the interns spent quality time at the SICI India office, which was buzzing with a young, spirited, intelligent, and avant-garde group of summer interns from post-secondary institutions in the Province of Alberta.

The interns also met Mr. Wheeler, Deputy High Commissioner of Mission of Canada to India. A big thanks to Mr. Wheeler for spending quality time with them and briefing them on many important aspects.

#### Interaction with Algoma University, Canada Students



Students and faculty from Algoma University visited the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's New Delhi office on May 9, 2024 to learn about the support and opportunities that the institute offers. They toured the office, interacted with the staff, and learnt about the institute's activities.

## **Outreach, Facilitation and Visits**

## Canada Day Pancake Breakfast at Canada House



To celebrate 'Canada Day', a Pancake Breakfast was arranged at Canada House on June 30, 2024. Dr Prachi Kaul was present at the pancake breakfast on behalf of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute. The event was well attended by dignitaries and people from the community.

## **Facilitation**

During this time, SICI facilitated its members in many constructive ways. Most importantly, it helped the visa issuance for more than 600 students from its member institutions, going on Mitacs fellowship this year. These students got their visas on time and availed the GRI and GRA fellowship.

Also, the visa was facilitated for two students of MNIT, Jaipur going on Visiting Research Student (VRS) programme at the University of Saskatchewan.

## **Member Update**

#### Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT Roorkee)

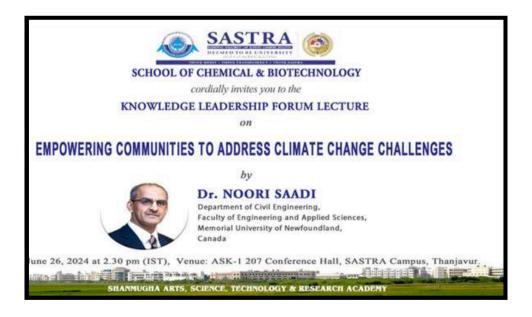
The Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IIT Roorkee) and Queen's University, Canada, to jointly host the "Innovative Design for Excellence, Affordability, and Sustainability (IDEAS-2024) Symposium" on October 19-20, 2024. For details, contact Prof. Bibhuti Ranjan Bhattacharjya at bibhuti@design.iitr.ac.in



## SASTRA Deemed University, Thanjavur



**Ms. Eren Rose Gino** (4th year M.tech. Int. Medical Nanotechnology) secured Mitacs GRI fellowship to visit University of Calgary. She will work with Prof. Maryam Badv, Assistant Professor, Schulich School of Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Calgary for 3 months starting from 25 May 2024. The title of the project is 'Multifunctional and super-hydrophobic biomaterials and surface coatings for biomedical applications'. Her visit duration will be 12 weeks.



**Prof. Noori Saady**, Assistant Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland visited SASTRA Deemed University for 2 weeks starting from 18th June 2024 for research collaborations with Prof. V. Ponnusami, Associate Dean, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, SASTRA. During his visit he gave a guest lecture titled "Empowering Communities to Address Climate Change Challenges" to the faculty members and research scholars of School of Chemical & Biotechnology and School of Civil Engineering. He has interacted with the faculties of both the school to establish research and academic collaborations.



**Prof. V. Ponnusami** received the G20 Chair Professor award (for Canada) from SASTRA University and visited Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL, Canada, during May 2024. Prof. Noori, Associate Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland hosted Prof. Ponnusami at MUN. The purpose of the visit was to promote collaborations between the two universities and exchange the best practices. During the visit Prof. Ponnusami met the Dean (Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science), Associate Dean (Graduate studies), Associate Dean (Undergraduate studies), Head (Civil engineering) and Head (Process Engineering) and deliberated potential collaborations at faculty and department levels. An MoU to facilitate faculty and student exchange is mooted and the draft MoU is under consideration. During the visit Prof. Ponnusami delivered a guest lecture on Role of biorefineries in circular bioeconomy and sustainable development.



#### Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

Dr. R. Umarani, Director, Seed Centre, Dr. V. Manonmani, Professor and Head, Department of Seed Science and Technology, TNAU, Coimbatore, Faculty and research scholars of Department of Seed Science and Technology with Dr. Allen Britten Professor of Chemistry, Cape Breton University, Canada

Dr. Allen Britten, a renowned Professor of Chemistry, Cape Breton University, Canada visited Seed Centre, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) between May 22 to June 1, 2024. Dr. Britten's visit was part of the Shastri Faculty Collaboration and Internationalization (SFCI) project, aimed at fostering collaborative research and strengthening academic ties between Canada and India.

During his visit, Dr. Britten engaged in collaborative research activities with TNAU faculty, focusing on the advancement of Seed Science and Technology. One of the highlights of his visit was an interactive session titled "Introduction to Mass Spectral Interpretation and Investigation of Novel GC Columns for Analysis of Volatile and Semi-Volatile Organics using GC and GC-MS," held at the Department of Seed Science and Technology

Dr. Britten delivered a series of insightful lectures and actively interacted with students and faculty members. He elaborated on the applications of chromatography and spectral interpretation in seed physiology and biology, discussing future prospects that could benefit faculty and research scholars in the fields of Seed Science and Technology and Agricultural Entomology.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. R. Umarani, Director of the Seed Centre, TNAU Dr.V.Manonmani, Professor and Head, Department of Seed Science and Technology, TNAU and Dr. T. Eevera, Associate Professor of the Department of Seed Science and Technology, ensuring a productive and enriching experience for all participants.

Dr. Britten's visit marks a significant step in the ongoing efforts to link researchers from Canada and TNAU, fostering international collaboration and innovation in agricultural research under the umbrella of SICI'S binational Agri Cluster.

## **Research Publications**

A. Chougule, I. Kulkarni, T. Alladi, **V. Chamola** and F. Richard Yu, "HybridSecNet: In-Vehicle Security on Controller Area Networks Through a Hybrid Two-Step LSTM-CNN Model, in IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, <u>doi: 10.1109/TVT.2024.3413849</u>.

The publication resulted from the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's **SICRG grant** (2020-21), awarded to **Dr. Vinay Chamola**, Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani.

## **Upcoming academic opportunities**

## Call for papers: 37th CANADA International Conference on "Economics, Management, Social Sciences & Humanities" (EMSSH-24)

37th CANADA International Conference on "Economics, Management, Social Sciences & Humanities" (EMSSH-24) is scheduled for **August 7-8**, **2024** at the University of Quebec in Montréal Campus, 320 Rue Sainte-Catherine E, Montréal, QC H2X 1L7 Canada. Submit Abstract/Full Paper/Poster to email: cs@earhm.org by April 01, 2024. For more details <u>click here</u>

#### Call for Proposals: 27th Canadian Ethnic Studies Association Biennial Conference

The Canadian Ethnic Studies Association (CESA) invites panel and/or paper proposals for its 27th biennial conference devoted to the theme "Colonial Legacies, Contemporary Crises and Contested Futures: Canada in an Interconnected World". The conference will be held in person at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, from **November 14-16, 2024**. Abstracts should be directed electronically to: cesa2024@ualberta.ca.For more information click here.

## Call for Abstract : Thirtieth [30th] International Conference on Processing of Advanced Materials and Fabrication of Products [PAMFP]

UPES, Bidholi, Dehradun is organizing the thirtieth [30th] International Conference on Processing of Advanced Materials and Fabrication of Products [PAMFP]. This three day conference will be convened from December 05-07, 2024. The theme of the conference is Smart NextGen PAMFP: Sustainable Materials and Green Manufacturing. For more details click here

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#### **Thanks for reading!**