



सिक्किम विश्वविद्यालय
स्थापित: 2007

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense joy to bring forth yet another issue of the SU Chronicle. This issue of the Chronicle highlights some of the events that were organised and celebrated in the University in the months of January and February.

We are very proud of our students Meera Bhutia, Prerna Dhakal, AnuAnupma, Ranjia Rai and Pooja Pradhan who are pursuing Ph. D. in the department of Microbiology who represented the University in the Science Exchange Programme and the International Workshop-both held in Japan in January 2019 and October 2018 respectively.

I hope you enjoy reading and keep contributing articles for the Chronicle.

Kunjini Prakash Darnal

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70th Republic Day Celebration



70th Republic Day was observed in the University on 26th January 2019. The Vice- Chancellor Prof. Avinash Khare hoisted the national flag in the presence of the Registrar, Librarian, Finance Officer, senior officers, faculty members, staff and students of the University.

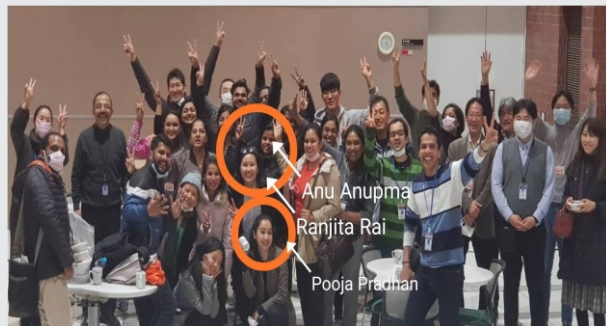
The Registrar Sh. T.K. Kaul congratulated all on the occasion of the 70th Republic Day and also remembered the sacrifice and contribution of the great leaders of the Nation.

The Vice- Chancellor Prof. Avinash Khare in his address spoke on the importance of recalling the History of our country so that we may all be able to celebrate such occasions in a meaningful way. Prof. Khare encouraged the students to practise brotherhood and uphold the virtues of equality, liberty and justice as enshrined in the Constitution of India. He also spoke on the achievements of the country in the field of education, science and technology, defence, health care and agriculture.



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Students attend International Workshop in Japan



Ms. Ranjita Rai, Ms. Pooja Pradhan and Ms. Anu Anupma- research scholars under Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, department of Microbiology attended the 6th AIST International Imaging Workshop and DAILAB PIKNIKH series XXXII at National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan between 20- 27th January 2019. Twenty students were selected for the workshop of which seventeen were from India- including three from Sikkim University, one from Thailand, one from Korea and one from Sri Lanka. The main purpose of the workshop was to train research scholars on the use of various imaging techniques. The workshop also included poster presentation competition which was held on the first day of the workshop.

The students were given hands-on-training on laboratory courses such as basic training in microscopy, laser scanning microscopy, super resolution microscopy, FCS analysis, electron microscopy, high throughput screening and cell imaging based on bioluminescence technology, confocal microscopy, phase contrast microscopy, DIC and brain section and imaging of neuron morphology. Their visit to Japan was fully supported by AIST, Japan. We congratulate them for their successful participation in the international workshop.

Science Exchange Programme in Japan

An educational visit-cum- exchange programme on “Introduction of Basic and Advanced Biomedical Approaches for Enhancing QOL in Aging Societies” was organised under the framework of Japan- Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science also known as the Sakura Exchange Programme in Science administered by Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). This exchange programme cum workshop was hosted by National Institute of advanced Industrial Science and technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan from 14th to 21st October 2018. Ms. Prerna Dhakal research scholar, department of Zoology under Dr. Basundhara Chettri and Dr. Namrate Thapa and Ms. Meera Ongmu Bhutia research scholar, department of Microbiology under Dr. Jyoti Prakash Tamang and Dr. Namrata Thapa were selected and were fully sponsored by Sakura Exchange Programme in Science. The visit included presentations in their respective fields of research and visits to various laboratories such as Nano- biodevice lab, DAILAB (now DAICENTER), Molecular Neurobiology Research Laboratory, Molecular profiling laboratory for drug designing at Tsukuba and Tokyo. We congratulate them for their successful participation in the international exchange programme in Japan.



International Mother Language Day- 21st February 2019.

(Reported by Dr. Samar Sinha, Co-ordinator, Centre for Endangered Languages, Sikkim University)

The Centre for Endangered Languages, Sikkim University organised the International Mother Language Day on 21st February 2019 at the Cauveri Hall. Dr. Samar Sinha, Co-ordinator of the Centre welcomed the delegates and highlighted the importance, history and significance of the day. Vice- Chancellor Prof. Avinash Khare chaired the inaugural session. In his remarks, Prof. Khare claimed that the Centre has a mandate to work on more than 34 endangered languages of Sikkim and North Bengal and highlighted the Centre’s work on Magar, Gurung, Bhujel, Sherpa and Rai-Rokdung. Later, he launched the official Google page of the Centre and released the mobile dictionary applications and the draft dictionaries of Magar and Bhujel.



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Orientation cum Workshop on Teaching through MOOCs Platform organised

The two days' orientation cum workshop on Teaching through Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform was organised by the SWAYAM Committee of the University and the department of Education on 14th and 15th February 2019. Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Dean School of Life Sciences was the Chief Guest for the inaugural function of the programme and in his address he stressed on the importance of online education and also encouraged the teachers to develop MOOCs courses. Prof. Abhijit Dutta, Dean School of Professional Studies shared his experience on MOOCs from universities abroad and also encouraged the young faculty members to take up robust on-line courses from SWAYAM.

Prof. Kaushal Kishore, Dean School of Education, South Bihar Central University Gaya discussed in detail on UGC's regulation on MOOCs courses and credit transfer. Dr. Yodida Bhutia, Co-ordinator of the University SWAYAM Committee spoke on the establishment of SWAYAM as per the instructions from UGC and the selection of mentors from the different colleges affiliated to the University. She also gave a brief account of the various activities conducted by the committee.

The resource persons for the workshop were Dr. Raj Kumar Singh and Dr. Anand Kumar Thakur from Ranchi University. They spoke on SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active- Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) being the indigenous platform of the MHRD, Government of India, providing an integrated portal and platform for hosting Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). It is a programme initiated by the government and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy- access, equity and quality.



Recognition to Faculty and Students

Mr. Partha Pratim Ray an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Computer Applications has recently been selected as a member in the prestigious affiliate committee of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Dew Computing STC for the development of Dew Computing.

Ms. Sushmita Lama from the department of Commerce has participated in many national and international chess championships and has won many such events. She has also cleared the National Chess Instructor examination and she is a licensed National Instructor (Chess). Sushmita has participated in National Cities Team Chess Championship where she secured the second position. She and her team will be representing India for the Asian Cities Team Chess Championship. She also participated in the Delhi Open International Chess Tournament and stood second in the womens category. In January 2019 Sushmita participated in the Northeast Chess Championship where she secured the first position and was adjudged the best female player.



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Shri C.B. Bhujel, the guest of honour spoke on language endangerment and highlighted how the Centre's work on Bhujel, Magar, Gurung and Sherpa have enriched these languages and communities. The inaugural session was followed by the technical sessions in which the participants representing Thami, Lepcha, magar, Gurung, Yakha, Newari, Tamang, Bhujel, Sunuwar and Sherpa spoke on the various issues related to their respective language and community. They also spoke on the significance of language as an identity, knowledge bank and the science of living. After the technical sessions a meeting with the community members, activists, researchers and their organisations was held on developing strategies to preserve and promote the endangered languages of Sikkim and North Bengal. Dr. Kabita Lama, Dean, School of Languages and Literature chaired the meeting on behalf of Sikkim University. Dr. S.K.Rai represented the communities as the Chairperson of the Eleven Indigenous Ethnic Communities of Sikkim and Dr. Samar Sinha Co-ordinator, represented the Centre for Endangered Languages Sikkim University. After a thorough debate and discussions with the stakeholders, it was decided that a plan to revitalise these languages is essential and a scheme to develop writing system should be given priority and to train the indigenous ethnic community members to document their language should be prioritised with the establishment of the Department of Linguistics in Sikkim University. The meeting and the programme ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



Media Buzz- A brief report on the Event

The annual media fest- Media Buzz organised by the Department of Mass Communication was held on 23rd and 24th February 2019 at the Tourism Hall, Tadong. In the ever growing competitive market place it has become imperative for the professionals of next- gen media industry to be equipped with all kinds of acumen to sustain and excel in the field. Also, the training of the professionals would not be complete if the students are not exposed to the media environment prevailing in the country. For that it is important that the students interact with the media professionals and bridge the gap between academia and media professionals.

The inaugural session of the fest was held on 23rd February in the presence of the Chief- Guest Shri G.M. Gurung, Honourable Cabinet Minister, Cultural Affairs and Heritage Department Govt. of Sikkim, Registrar Sh. T.K. Kaul, faculty members and students. Events like panel discussion, debate, headline making, news writing, poster making, photo story, short film screening, talent hunt, fashion show, battle of bands and cultural performances were organised with the objective of giving hands on training to the students in event management, creating a vibrant media environment in Sikkim and also to create an ambience where the academia and professionalism can meet and bridge the existing gap between them.

