



SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)

(Established under section 3 of the UGC Act 1956)

Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade I Awarded Category - I by UGC

Founder: Prof. Dr. S. B. Mujumdar, M.Sc., Ph.D. (Awarded Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri by President of India)

Minutes of the 49th Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) meeting of Symbiosis International (Deemed University), SIU, held on Wednesday, 16 April 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at the Convention Centre, Hilltop, Lavale.

The following members attended the 49th IQAC meeting.

Category	Sr. No	Name of the Members
Chairperson: Head of the Institution	1	Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman, Vice Chancellor
Teachers to represent all levels	2	Dr. Anirban Sur, Professor, SIT, Pune
	3	Dr. Sheela Upendra, Deputy Director, SCON
	4	Dr. Poornima Tapas, Professor, SIBM, Pune
	5	Dr. Manjari Jonnalagadda, Assistant Professor, SSLA
Member of the Management	6	Prof. Vinayak Shirgurkar
Senior Administrative Officers	7	Dr. Sophia Gaikwad, Head, STLRC
	8	CA Supriya Deshpande, Deputy Finance Officer, SIU
	9	Dr. Anita Patankar, Director, SCIE
	10	Dr. Avinash Kakade, Deputy Registrar, SIU
	11	Mr. Harshad Gune, Head, Software Development, SIU
	12	Dr. Dharmendra Pandey, Deputy Director and Head - Quality Assurance, SIU
One nominee each from the Stakeholder	13	Mr. Nilesh Nikam, Ex. Standing Committee Chairman, PMC
Senior teachers as the coordinator/ Director of the IQAC	14	Dr. Hardik Vachharajani, Director QMB, SIU
Nominees from Student	15	Ms. Pankhuri Varshney, SIT, Pune

The following members were special invitees.

Category	Sr. No	Name of the Members
Internal Invitees	1	Dr. Sammita Jadhav, Director, SIHS
	2	Ms. Shalini Singh, Head IT Operations
	3	Ms. Khushi Bhadiyadra, Student, SIBM- Nagpur
	4	Mr. Chintamani Namdeo Chaudhari, Student, SIT- Nagpur



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The following members could not attend the meeting due to prior commitments and were granted leave of absence.

Category	Sr. No	Name of the Members
Teachers to represent all levels	1	Ms. Lasya Vyakaranam, Assistant Professor, SLS Pune
Nominees from Local Society, Student, and Alumni (between three and five, at least one from Local Society, Student, and Alumni)	2	Mr. Pradeep Bhargava, Chairman, MECF Limited, Pune, a member of the local society
	3	Ms. Nivedita Dodeja, student, SSBF
	4	Ms. Kanisha Raina, Vice President, HR, Fiserv India Pvt Ltd, a member of the Alumni
One nominee each from the Employer	5	Mr. Jivesh Govil, Senior Vice President of Operations and India Country Head, Magnit Global Vadodara, Gujarat
One nominee each from the Industrialist	6	Mr. Jaisurya Das, Co-Founder & Editorial Director, Pune365.com



(Image 1: 49th IQAC meeting of SIU)

With the permission of the Chairperson, Honourable Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman, and Prof. Vinayak Shirgurkar, Member of the Management, Dr. Hardik Vachharajani, Director, IQAC, formally welcomed all attendees to the 49th IQAC meeting.



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Dr. Hardik Vachharajani extended a special welcome to the newly inducted student representatives Ms. Khushi from SIBM Nagpur and Mr. Chintamani from SIT Nagpur. He emphasized the significance of permanent student representation in IQAC, aligning with the directives of Honourable Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman to enhance student participation.

Accordingly, the number of student representatives, especially from off-campus centers, has been increased to ensure broader student perspectives in the process.

Following the welcome, the Director, IQAC, presented and guided the members through the agenda items of the 49th IQAC meeting.

ITEM NO.1

To confirm the 48th IQAC meeting minutes (MOM) held on Monday, 16 December 2024.

Director IQAC, informed that the MOM of the 48th IQAC meeting, held on Monday, 16th December 2024, was presented to the IQAC members and shared via email on Tuesday, 8 April 2025.

Members were requested to provide feedback on the meeting minutes. As no further revisions were suggested, the resolution was passed.

Resolution Item No.1: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the meeting minutes held on Monday, 16th December 2024, be and are hereby confirmed.

ITEM NO.2

To review the Action Taken Report (ATR) of the 48th IQAC meeting held on Monday, 16 December 2024.

During the 49th IQAC meeting, Dr. Hardik Vachharajani, Director, IQAC, informed the members that the resolutions from the previous meeting had been shared with the concerned stakeholders for necessary action. He then presented a summary of the actions taken based on those resolutions.

As this was the final meeting of the academic year, Dr. Hardik Vachharajani highlighted it as a valuable opportunity to review and reflect on the key initiatives undertaken throughout the year. The Action Taken Report covered a broad spectrum of initiatives that were diligently monitored and executed.



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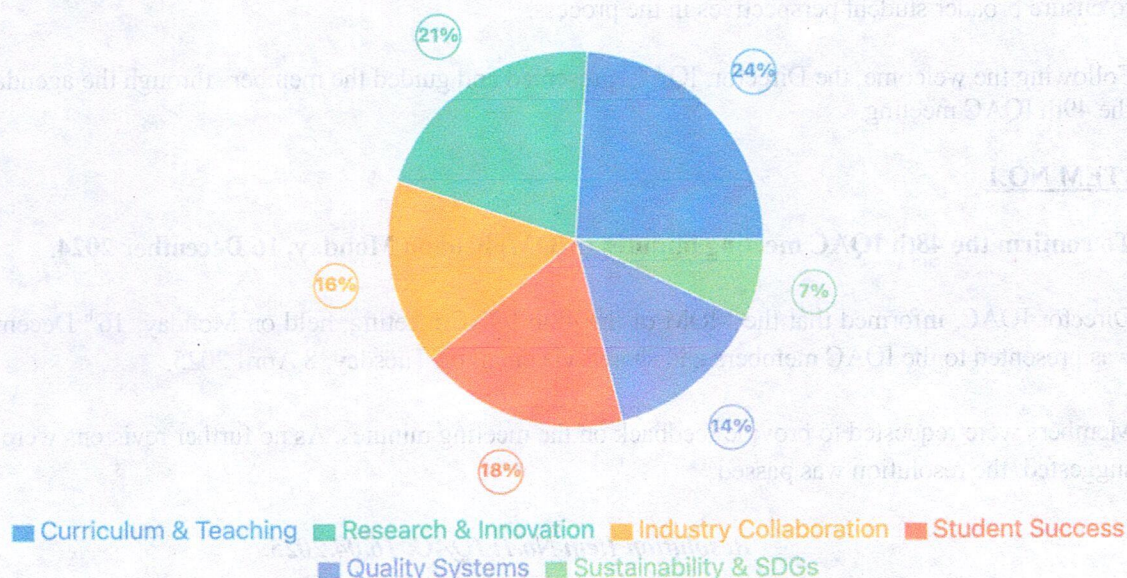
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ATR Highlights: Distribution of SIU Quality Initiatives by Domain

Analysis of 100 Key Initiatives from 49th IQAC Meeting



This visualization categorizes the 100 key initiatives documented in the ATR section by their primary focus area, highlighting the balanced approach to quality enhancement across academic domains at Symbiosis International University.

(Image 2: ATR Highlights)

As the members wanted to know about the SAF-Symbiosis Accreditation Framework, Dr. Hardik Vachharajani explained that the SAF pilot will commence in July 2025, with the selected institutes receiving a different communication data template for the AQR cycle. This will test whether the new framework is inclusive enough to collect data for all rankings from a single submission. The pilot phase will continue through December 2025, after which the data will be analysed to improve the framework before full rollout across SIU in the following academic year.

Resolution Item No.2: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the actions taken on the resolutions passed at the meeting on Monday, 16 December 2024, be and are hereby noted.



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ITEM NO.3

To update members about the A.Y. 2023-24 Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) submission to NAAC.

Director, IQAC, provided an update on the AQAR submission process. He mentioned that, unlike in previous years, where NAAC allowed multiple deadline extensions, the latest notification suggested that no such extensions would be granted for the current cycle. In anticipation of this, the QMB team adopted a proactive approach by initiating the collection and consolidation of data from all constituent institutes, departments, and research centers. Consequently, the AQAR for the academic year 2023-24 was submitted on Thursday, 16 January 2025, and was approved by NAAC on the same day.

For the academic year 2024-25, the QMB team will begin data collection from 1 July 2025 to ensure adequate time for all units to provide complete and accurate data.

Resolution Item No.3: IQAC: 16.04.2025


Resolved that the members acknowledged the efforts made by QMB in successfully submitting the AQAR for A.Y. 2023-24.

ITEM NO.4


To update about the accreditations and rankings outcome of SIU and its constituent institutes.

Dr. Dharmendra Pandey, Deputy Director, QMB and Head, Quality Assurance, SIU, presented a comprehensive overview of the University's performance across various national and international ranking frameworks.


University Rankings, Accreditation and Achievements




Times Higher Education World University Ranking 2025	
601-800 th Ranked band in the World	4 th Ranked in the India



253 rd Globally in Social Sciences and Management	151-200 th Globally in Business & Management Studies	301-375 th Globally in Accounting & Finance	551-700 th Globally in Economics & Econometrics	451-500 th Globally in Computer Science & Information Systems
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Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2025 by Subject				
301-400 th Computer Science	301-400 th Social Sciences	501-600 th Business and Economics	601-800 th Engineering	601-800 th Medical and Health



Symbiosis International (Deemed University) (SIU) has been chosen as the first Rotary Peace Center in India and the 9th Rotary Peace Centre globally. The Rotary Foundation Trustees selected SIU for its exceptional academic offerings, faculty expertise, student support and dedication to peace and conflict resolution.



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Institute Rankings

Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies and Research (SICSR)

Rankings -

- Ranked 78th in India's Best B-School Survey in Overall
- Ranked 27th in West - Zone-wise Private B-School
- Ranked 10th in Pune - City-wise Private B-School



Symbiosis Institute of Digital & Telecom Management (SIDTM)

Rankings -

- Ranked 21st in Top Private B-School
- Ranked 33rd Overall B-School Ranking
- Ranked 11th in West Zone B-Schools
- Ranked 4th in Pune



Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (SIBM),

Pune rankings -

- Ranked as 3rd Best B-School in India , 2nd Best Private B School in India and 1st in Placements



Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (SIBM), Pune

rankings -

- Ranked 4th in Placement and teaching, learning and resources (TLRP)

Institute Rankings

Symbiosis Institute of Management Studies (SIMS) Rankings -

- Ranked at 1st position in the category of Distinguished B-schools.
- Ranked 2nd among Maharashtra's premier private B-schools and in the State Champions across Government and Private sectors.
- Ranked 6th position among the Top Private B-schools in India.
- Ranked 9th for Faculty, Publications, Research, Consultancy, MDP and other Programs.
- Ranked 9th in India for its Placements (Domestic & International), USP, Commitment to Social Responsibility, Networking and Industry Interface across both Government and Private sectors.
- Ranked 2nd among the Top B-schools in Maharashtra.
- Ranked 4th among the Top B- schools (Government and Private) in India for Faculty, Publications, Research, Consultancy, MDP and other Programs.
- Ranked 5th among the Top Private Supreme B-schools in India

Symbiosis Institute of Digital & Telecom Management (SIDTM) Rankings -

- Ranked 12th in Top Private B-School
- Ranked 15th in Top 15 B-schools (Placements), USP, Social Responsibility, Networking and Industry Interface
- Ranked 3rd in State Champions across both Government and Private sectors.





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Dr. Dharmendra Pandey emphasized that while SIU demonstrates strong performance in overall university rankings, there is significant scope for improvement in areas related to sustainability reporting. He clarified that the challenge lies not in the absence of impactful sustainability initiatives but in the limited documentation and effective communication of these efforts. To bridge this gap, QMB is in the process of developing a comprehensive framework to systematically capture and report Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related activities, ensuring greater consistency and visibility across all institutional domains.

Dr. Hardik Vachharajani reinforced the importance of embedding SDGs within the academic ecosystem. He stated that efforts are underway to map existing courses to relevant SDGs, aiming to strengthen the University's commitment to sustainability through curriculum integration. To support this initiative, it was proposed that the STARS Framework, a model used by several global institutions, be circulated among all constituent units as a guiding reference.

Resolution Item No.4: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the members noted and appreciated SIU's performance in various national and international rankings and accreditations.

Dr. Dharmendra Pandey informed the members that a detailed communication regarding the STARS Framework will be sent to all concerned stakeholders to enhance understanding of SDG mapping practices.

Dr. Hardik Vachharajani proposed that the topic of SDG mapping and integration be included as a session in the upcoming Prakarsh QMB Knowledge Series to build institutional capacity and share best practices across the University. He also mentioned that, if necessary, assistance from the Director of Academics could be sought to enhance understanding and ensure the effective implementation of aligning courses with the SDGs, thereby supporting their integration into the curriculum.

ITEM NO. 5

To discuss about the innovative practices and quality initiatives adopted by various institutes and departments of SIU.

Director, IQAC, provided an overview of the achievements, innovative practices, and quality initiatives implemented across various institutes and departments of SIU.

Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
Symbiosis Institute of Digital and Telecom Management (SIDTM)	1. To update program structure for 2024-2026 based on technological advancements and offer internationally accepted value-added courses 2. To introduce a Dual Degree Program with a foreign university 3. To conduct weekly Telecom Technology and Current Affairs Tests, and enhance practical skills with	1. Revised the program structure and course contents under the Telecom Sub-Committee to align with evolving industry needs and global standards. As part of this revision, new courses were introduced, including Leadership Development Programme, Design Thinking, and Technology Awareness & Knowledge, with a focus on SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth. Additionally, a



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
	<p>increased lab-based sessions</p> <p>4. To organize IPR and Quality Publication workshops for faculty and students, and index "Telecom Business Review Journal" in UGC CARE list</p> <p>5. To file at least 5 patents by faculty members and develop patent-worthy prototypes</p> <p>6. To add classrooms, renovate the conference hall with advanced technology, and purchase research software like Nvivo</p> <p>7. To conduct career counselling, pre-placement training, and psychometric tests, and organize alumni meets with guest lectures and mentoring</p> <p>8. To conduct training for non-teaching staff and organize Faculty Development Programs (FDPs)</p> <p>9. To incorporate SDG goals into the curriculum (SDG 4, 9, 17) and promote entrepreneurship with external incubation tie-ups</p>	<p>collaboration was established with an international organization to offer a Value-Added Course, enhancing the program's global relevance and learner engagement.</p> <p>2. A unique program is being run, and the exploration of partnerships with foreign universities for a Dual Degree has been initiated. However, the process is currently on hold and is planned to be taken forward in the A.Y. 2026-27.</p> <p>3. Introduced Lab-based sessions for a new course on Block Chain Technology.</p> <p>4. Conducted a Session on Research Paper writing by Dr. Sujata Joshi for the students of Batch 2024-2026. TBR Journal is sent to UGC for indexation.</p> <p>5. Filed a total of 25 patents till now, among which 1 patent is granted and a patented prototype is developed (2024-25, Dr. Saikat Gochhait).</p> <p>6. Renovation of Conference Hall and purchase of Nvivio will be done in A.Y. 2025-26.</p> <p>7. Conducted Career Counselling, Preplacement training for the students of Batch 2023-25, and a psychometric test was conducted for the students of Batch 2024-26. Alumni Meets are conducted as per the schedule at Delhi, Bangalore, and Mumbai.</p> <p>8. Conducted Faculty Development Programme (FDP) for the faculty on Cyber Security and Forensics.</p> <p>9. Strengthened focus on research-based education and the advancement of emerging technologies is currently a work in progress, driven by innovation and strategic partnerships aligned with key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In support of SDG 4 – Quality Education, efforts are underway to implement research-based education aimed at enhancing academic rigor and fostering experiential learning. Under SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, a proposal is in progress to establish a state-of-the-art 6G lab in collaboration with the Department of Telecommunications. For SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals, MoUs have been</p>



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
		signed with IDS (Blockchain Technology) and TUV SUD (Product Management Certification) as part of ongoing initiatives to strengthen industry-academia collaboration.
Symbiosis Centre for Management & Human Resource Development (SCMHRD)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase ESG content in the curriculum by 5% by 2025 2. To aim for 75-100 PRJ articles indexed in 2025 3. To achieve 90% placement, 10% increase in average CTC 4. To have a minimum 2 SCOPUS/WoS publications per faculty 5. To increase 5% connections with NGOs for SAMADHAN and other social projects 	<p>1. Integrated two-credit core courses into the MBA Batch 2024-25 curriculum on ESG and Sustainable Finance and Basics of ESG Reporting, Frameworks, and Regulations. Additionally, a two-credit course on Basics of ESG Reporting, Frameworks, and Regulations has been incorporated for the MBA (IDM) Batch 2024-25.</p> <p>2. Indexed 33 PRJ articles in SCOPUS/WoS from January 2024 to date, and by May 2025, the target will be achieved.</p> <p>3. Initiated the placement process, and the same will be achieved by May 2025.</p> <p>4. 9 faculties had more than 2 SCOPUS/WoS publications from January 2024 to date, and the target will be achieved by May 2025.</p> <p>5. Increased by 11%, the number of associated NGOs rose from 18 in AY 2023-24 to 20 in the current year.</p>
Symbiosis Institute of Business Management (SIBM), Pune	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase revenue from consultancy and corporate training, and enhance collaborations with industry by atleast 30% 2. To conduct a minimum 7-day skill development program for faculty and staff during A.Y 2024-25 3. To organize at least two workshops, seminars, or guest lectures on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Sustainable Development Goals and enhancing/promoting research to improve knowledge and skills 	<p>1. Increased overall revenue of the institute by 53% and for MDPs by 458%.</p> <p>2. Conducted a 7-day skill-development programme for faculty and staff from March 3-7 and March 10-11, 2025.</p> <p>3. i) Hosted a workshop titled "Business Method Patents: A Global Perspective" on March 26, 2025.</p> <p>(ii) Conducted a session on "Sustainability in the Age of Technology" on March 26, 2025.</p> <p>(iii) Organized a research colloquium "Romancing Research: A Survival Guide" for faculty members and research scholars on November 14, 2024.</p>
Academics, SIU	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To complete the course rationalization process to update the catalog of 8000+ courses, with all courses reviewed by subcommittees, aligned with SDGs, and following NCfR levels 2. To ensure all UG/PG programs are OBE (Outcome-Based Education) compliant through OBE policy revision and software implementation for CO-PO attainment reports 	<p>1. Initiated the course rationalization process, which has been completed for 7 BOS sub-committees as of now; the remaining work is underway and is expected to be completed by June 2025.</p> <p>2. Generated OBE-related reports using MOODLE data for A.Y. 2023-24, with the data fetched online and a sample report successfully created.</p> <p>3. Implemented an external audit system for</p>



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
	<p>3. To implement an external audit system for academic reviews using revised academic audit forms and external auditors nominated by deans</p> <p>4. To align PG and engineering UG programs with the National Education Policy (NEP), including reviewing PG programs and assisting deans in exploring one-year PG options and exit possibilities</p>	<p>academic reviews using revised academic audit forms and auditors nominated by the Deans. External auditors participated in the Academic Audit for the Even Semester 2023-24 cycle. The report has been submitted to the Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and shared with the Directors of the institutes.</p> <p>4. Director-Academics held meetings with PG institute's Directors, and the report was subsequently submitted to the Vice-Chancellor.</p>
Symbiosis Law School (SLS), Pune	<p>1. To implement 4+1 LL.M pathway Programme with Birmingham University</p> <p>2. CCP Law course Pilot Testing</p> <p>3. To conduct domain-based Guest Lectures with industry experts and a Value-Added Course (VAC) on Legal Technology, Litigation, Law, Language, Justice, and Culture</p> <p>4. To target more than 1 MAVs per faculty</p>	<p>1. Implemented the programme now referred to as Semester Abroad leading to LL.M.</p> <p>2. Completed Pilot Testing of the CCP Law course.</p> <p>3. Completed domain-based guest lectures with industry experts and a capsule course on Legal Technology. For Litigation, Law, Language, Justice, and Culture, a dedicated track has been introduced in SYMROLIC 2025, which is currently in progress and scheduled for completion by December 2025.</p> <p>4. Work in progress on MAV target achievement. So far, 172 research publications have been recorded. MAV achievement currently stands at 46%, with 26 faculty members having met their targets for A.Y. 2024. For A.Y. 2025, 3 faculty members have achieved their MAVs to date, and the overall process is scheduled for completion by December 2025.</p>
Symbiosis Institute of Operations Management (SIOM)	<p>1. To update the MBA(OM) and MBA(AOM) curricula based on feedback</p> <p>2. To offer Common Value-Added Courses (CVAC) such as Sports and Fitness, Yoga Education, and Environmental Education, ensuring each student completes 30 hours per semester, with opportunities for additional certifications</p> <p>3. To strengthen partnerships with organizations like PMI by organizing orientation sessions with KnoWreX, PMI, and CII Logistics to promote industry-recognized certifications through MoUs"</p>	<p>1. Revised the Programme Structures (PS) for MBA(OM) and MBA(AOM), based on the feedback received from various stakeholders. The revised PS was presented in the PRC for approval.</p> <p>2. Introduced Health and Wellness Module I & II, which is a Non-Credit mandatory course for MBA 2024-26 OM and MBA 2024-26 AOM in the Second Semester.</p> <p>3. Conducted Orientation sessions by KnoWreX, PMI, and CII Logistics to encourage students to take up these additional certifications. Signed MoUs with PMI.</p>



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies (SCMS), Pune	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To revise BBA Programme structure with stakeholder involvement To conduct a minimum of 7 brown bag seminars and achieve 18 research publications in 2024 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted the revised program structure for the 2025–29 to SIU Academics for approval; approval is awaited, with completion expected by June 2025. Successfully achieved the set targets by conducting 7 B-own Bag seminars and surpassing the publication goal with 31 Scopus/Web of Science publications completed ahead of the December 2024 deadline.
Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies & Research (SICSR)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To revise the structure of 5 undergraduate and postgraduate programs with input from stakeholders, ensuring a 20% modification. To identify 368 courses focusing on employability/entrepreneurship/skill development. To publish 50 research papers in recognized journals/conferences. To implement 21 value-added courses with 100% student enrolment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Modified the programme structure based on PRC recommendations and in compliance with the directive to incorporate at least 20% revision every five years. Mapped all the courses as per the requirement in the Eduwiz Software. Successfully achieved the objective by publishing over 50 research papers in recognized journals and conferences. Completed 12 VAC courses and 9 additional courses are in progress, with overall completion expected by May 2025.
Symbiosis College of Nursing (SCON)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To commence the NPCC Program with an intake of 10 seats To increase B.Sc. (N) seats from 50 to 80 and M.Sc.(N) from 25 to 30 To file at least 2 patents To Implement a student exchange program with 1 international university (GRIP Japan) To Execute 10 community extension activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Commenced the NPCC Program in August 2024 with an intake capacity of 10 seats, out of which 5 students were successfully admitted. Commenced the B.Sc. (Nursing) and M.Sc. (Nursing) programs in August 2024, with an increased intake capacity from 50 to 80 seats for B.Sc. and from 25 to 30 seats for M.Sc. Filed two patent applications in 2024-25, which are currently under process. Initiated the Student Exchange Program, under which 5 students from SCON visited Chiba University, Japan, in March 2025 as part of the GRIP Program. Carried out 10 community extension activities during the academic year 2024-25
Symbiosis Centre for Information Technology (SCIT)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To revise 20% of the curriculum to align with industry requirements by October 2024 To achieve 100% resolution of grievances To increase faculty publications in peer-reviewed journals by 20% To conduct research workshops on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed the following courses to the Board of Studies (BOS) for the 2025-27 cycle: Introduction to DBMS and SQL Programming, Python Programming, AI-Powered Developer Platforms and Tools, Time Series Data, Analysis and Databases, Responsible and Explainable AI, Recommender Systems, Financial Analytics, Machine Learning Operations (MLOps), Designing Data Lake and Governance, and Generative AI Tools.



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
		<p>2. Resolved all grievances on time based on evaluations conducted, achieving 100% resolution.</p> <p>3. Increased publications in Scopus and Web of Science by 44%, from 111 in 2023 to 155 in 2024.</p> <p>4. Conducted various workshops and Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR) activities, including Tree Plantation, Green Ganesha, Digital Literacy Campaigns, and Adhigama at the local level, aligned with SDG 13. Organized and participated in initiatives such as the Cool the Globe campaign (SDG 13), Kisan Exhibition, Purnkuti, Real Life Real People (Pimpri), Helping Hand, Jagrut Apang Sangatana, Vasundhra Abhiyan, and Digital Literacy Campaigns mapped with SDGs 13 and 15. Received appreciation letters from several NGOs. Additionally, organized the Integrity and Ethics Conclave and the annual Dattansh Analytics Conclave, aligned with SDG 8.</p>
Symbiosis School of Biological Sciences (SSBS)	<p>1. To help at least 50% of slow learners improve their performance</p> <p>2. To file 2 patents through faculty collaboration with the IP cell</p> <p>3. To purchase software to better manage placement activities and improve student job opportunities</p> <p>4. To strengthen industry-academia connections to increase placements by at least 10%, aiming for 11 or more students placed or in process</p>	<p>1. Initiated mentor-mentee meetings to support this goal, resulting in a 100% improvement in the exams conducted so far; this will remain an ongoing process.</p> <p>2. Filed two provisional patents by Dr. Ram Kulkarni and Dr. Ejaj Pathan: Ejaj K. Pathan and Unnati Singhania – "Strategic sourcing and selection of <i>Aspergillus niger</i> strains producing high yield of citric acid" (Application No. 202521005509, dated 20/01/2025). R. Kulkarni, D. Shinde, R. Yargatti, and A. Gokhale – "Tomato Sauce Made from Lactic-Fermented Tomato Without Artificial Preservatives" (Provisional Indian Patent No. 202421100762, filed on 19/12/2024).</p> <p>3. Purchased Software (POD AI)</p> <p>4. Placed a total of 17 students (15 from the 2022–24 batch and 2 from the 2023–25 batch) between June 2024 and March 2025, achieving the targeted improvement and marking a 70% increase from the previous count of 10 students; this will be an ongoing process.</p>
Administration, SIU	<p>1. To implement a real-time Data Capturing System for NIRF Ranking and</p>	<p>1. Implementation of a real-time Data Capturing System for NIRF Ranking and</p>



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Institute Name	Plan of Action	Achievement
	<p>AISHE Survey</p> <p>2. To establish Industry Institute Partnership Cells at the Constituent and University levels</p> <p>3. To create a centralized Cloud-Based Repository for the storage of images, event details, and other relevant information</p> <p>4. To develop an Administrative Audit Information Portal to collect data from all units</p>	<p>AISHE Survey is in progress to ensure accurate and timely data reporting.</p> <p>2. Formation of Industry Institute Partnership Cells (IIPCs) at the University level is in progress. Constituent institutes have been informed, Chairpersons have been nominated, and a meeting with the University IIPC Member Secretary and constituent Chairpersons is being scheduled.</p> <p>3. Development of the Administrative Audit Information Portal is in progress, with the task assigned to the Software Development section of the QMB Department.</p> <p>4. Creation of a centralized Cloud-Based Repository is in progress to facilitate streamlined, secure, and centralized data access and storage.</p>
Symbiosis Centre for Yoga (SCY)	<p>1. To promote Dhyana Kendra sessions introducing Rope and belt training (1860 participants)</p> <p>2. To achieve a 20% increase in participation for Point-Just Breathe Symbiosis (8192 participants)</p> <p>3. To increase participation numbers to 1000 for Point-Y-Breaks for staff (400 participants)</p>	<p>1. Dhyana Kendra – Rope and Belt Training: Online demonstration sessions were conducted to highlight the benefits of rope and belt training. As a result, 2,280 participants engaged in the sessions, achieving a 23% increase and surpassing the initial target of 1,860 participants.</p> <p>2. Just Breathe Symbiosis: Pranayama videos were recorded for both staff and students, which will be shared in the upcoming semester. Additionally, the Just Breathe concept was integrated into student induction programs. Participation reached 10,580, reflecting a 29% increase from the original count of 8,192.</p> <p>3. Y-Breaks for Staff: Participation numbers have increased, and expansion is currently underway. This is being supported by structured scheduling and targeted awareness efforts through both online and offline sessions, to achieve the target of 1,000 participants.</p>

Resolution Item No.5: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the members acknowledged and commended the innovative practices and quality initiatives implemented across the institutes and departments of SIU.



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ITEM NO. 6

To update about the initiatives of the Quality Management and Benchmarking (QMB) department.

- SAF-Symbiosis Accreditation Framework
- *Prakarsh*- QMB Knowledge Series

Dr. Hardik Vachharajani, presented recent developments and initiatives of the QMB department:

1. **Symbiosis Accreditation Framework (SAF):**

Following the receipt of the copyright for the Symbiosis Accreditation Framework (SAF), the SAF data templates have been developed and mapped. Internal testing is currently underway. Four institutions, SIT Pune, SIBM Nagpur, SIIB Pune, and SLS Noida, have been selected for the pilot testing phase. Post-testing, QMB will initiate awareness programs and the broader pilot implementation of SAF.

2. ***Prakarsh* – QMB Knowledge Series:**

The 7th session of the *Prakarsh* Knowledge Series was conducted on February 28, 2025, focusing on “Integrating Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) into Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities.” The session was delivered by Ms. Gayatri Mendanha, Assistant Professor at Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts, and was attended by over 95 participants. Practical examples and insights were shared to encourage the integration of IKS into mainstream academia. A certificate of participation in *Prakarsh* through the QMBLMS platform was also enabled.

Resolution Item No.6: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that members noted and appreciated the recent developments and initiatives of the QMB department.

ITEM NO. 7

To update the members about the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) Phase II.

Director, IQAC, presented insights on the current status of the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) Phase II process scheduled for SIDTM, SIIB, SIMC, and SIMS between December 2024 and July 2025. The Director informed that formal communication had been shared with the concerned institutes, outlining the key preparatory steps, including the formation of NBA committees, training of staff, preparation of the Self-Assessment Report (SAR), internal reviews, and mock audits.

It was noted that Senior Directors have been appointed as mentors to support the institutes and guide them through the accreditation process, ensuring compliance with NBA requirements and timelines. As part of capacity-building efforts, two significant programs were conducted:

- An NBA Orientation Session on 12 February 2025
- An NBA Workshop, conducted in collaboration with STLRC, on 26 February 2025



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The Director emphasized continued follow-up and monitoring to ensure the timely and successful completion of the accreditation process.

Resolution Item No.7: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that members noted the progress of NBA Phase II accreditation preparation.

ITEM NO. 8

To discuss about the new initiatives of the software development department and IT operations.

Mr. Harshad Gune, Head of Software Development, presented an overview of the department's key highlights and initiatives.

1. Team Overview:

Introduced the Software Development team, comprising members with roles ranging from senior to junior software developers.

2. Core Services:

- Customization and support for Moodle LMS (46 instances).
- Development and maintenance of Drupal-based web applications for administrative and departmental use.
- Maintenance of 8 institutional websites.

3. Development Initiatives:

- Implemented features like attendance reports, feedback systems, parental access, OBE assessment tools, and SSO integration with MDC.
- Supported platforms for webinars, online exams, course offerings, and health promotions.

4. Academic and Administrative Tools:

- Developed portals and tools for AQAR, academic calendars, competitions, CO-PO attainment, and data for institutional rankings (NIRF, AISHE).

5. Website Maintenance for Centers:

- Ongoing support for multiple Symbiosis research and academic centers, including SCMIA, SCUS, SCNN, SSS, SCSCR, SCY, SCWRM, and SCAAI.

6. Ongoing & Planned Projects:

- Migration of Moodle from v4.0.6 to 4.5.3.
- Migration of Drupal from v8.9.16 to 10.4.3.
- New developments like the Admin Audit portal and NBA-compliant OBE enhancements.



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Mr. Harshad Gune highlighted the challenge of staff retention within the software development team. In response, Honourable Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman recommended adopting sustainable staffing models by identifying and nurturing internal employees who have demonstrated loyalty and a willingness to upskill, rather than depending solely on external recruitment.

Ms. Shalini Singh, Head of Software Development, presented an overview of the department's key highlights and initiatives

1. Moodle Maintenance & Support:

- Introduced a structured, multi-tiered support system to streamline Moodle-related issue resolution.
- A dedicated team of six Moodle IT Support Engineers was onboarded, each assigned to a specific institute.
- Support levels range from self-service to expert intervention and final escalation to the Vice Chancellor.

2. Process and People Management:

- Emphasis on a data-driven approach to monitor and improve support efficiency.
- Standardization of processes, best practice sharing, and structured training programs implemented.
- Improved stakeholder communication with defined roles and contacts points.

3. People Metrics & Engagement:

- Focus on managing absenteeism and attrition with regular manager-employee interactions and feedback loops.
- Measures introduced to ensure adherence to leave policies and improve team stability.

4. Process Improvements:

- Implementation of an internal software requisition policy.
- Resource optimization, including release of part-time support personnel based on workload analysis.
- Development of a customized Moodle mobile app aligned with desktop features.

Resolution Item No.8: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that members noted and appreciated the new initiatives of the software development department and IT operations.



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ITEM NO. 9

Presentation on innovative practices and quality initiatives adopted at SIU by Symbiosis Institute of Health Sciences (SIHS), Pune.

Dr. Sammita Jadhav, Director, SIHS presented on the quality initiatives at SIHS.

- **Future-Ready Curriculum**
SIHS has aligned its programs (Hospital & Healthcare Management, Public Health, Behavioural Health Sciences, Reproductive Technology and Paramedical Technology) with rapid industry changes, embedding simulation-based learning—using high-fidelity manikins, virtual labs and inter-professional exercises—across both undergraduate and postgraduate offerings.
- **Industry-Academia Collaboration**
A recent CXO Meet with healthcare leaders shaped curriculum updates and led to the launch of six new programs, including Post-Graduate Diplomas in Digital Health, Healthcare Informatics & Data Analytics, Rehabilitation Science, and multiple Paramedical Technology specializations.
- **Skill Development & Competency**
Simulation training has demonstrably improved students' clinical preparedness, decision-making, teamwork and communication skills, as confirmed by alumni and recruiter feedback.
- **Faculty and Student Training in Emerging Technologies**
SIHS has acquired tools such as SMARTPLS and NVivo, alongside Turnitin, Grammarly and SPSS. Faculty development covers AI, data analytics and simulation pedagogy, with extensions into student workshops and certification programs.
- **Comprehensive Student Lifecycle Management**
From induction through internships, mentoring, and alumni engagement, every touchpoint incorporates industry projects, soft-skills training, field visits, and service-learning, supported by regular audits, peer reviews, and outcome-based education models.
- **Conferences and Research Engagement**
SIHS continues to host and participate in national forums—SYMHEALTH, SYMSIM, and SYMRESEARCH—fostering a community-hospital interface and promoting research, innovation, and best practices in healthcare education.

Dr. Sammita Jadhav highlighted that SIHS students made a significant impact during the COVID-19 pandemic by managing a 400-bed facility and coordinating vaccination campaigns with zero fatalities.

SIHS has been recognized in the 2025 edition of the "India's Best B-School".

Resolution Item No.9: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the members acknowledged and appreciated the quality initiatives undertaken by SIHS.



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ITEM NO. 10

To inform the members regarding the change in the faculty and nomenclature of “Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Studies (SCBS)”.

Director, IQAC, informed the members that as per Notification No. SIU/28/1522 dated 25 March 2024, the Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Studies (SCBS) has been renamed to the Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Sciences (SCBS) and shifted from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences to the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, effective from the A.Y. 2024–25.

Resolution Item No.10: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the information regarding the change in the nomenclature of “Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Studies (SCBS)” is hereby noted by the members.

ITEM NO. 11

To seek suggestions/ feedback from all stakeholders.

Dr. Hardik Vachharajani requested suggestions and feedback from all stakeholders during the Open House Discussion.

Students' representatives, Mr. Chintamani (SIT Nagpur) and Ms. Khushi (SIBM Nagpur) expressed their gratitude for being included in the meeting.

Prof. Vinayak Shirgurkar proposed that SIU consider establishing its own accreditation agency and initiate a pilot implementation of the SAF.

Prof. Vinayak Shirgurkar also suggested exploring ways to attract research talent from the U.S., noting a drop in research funding there in recent years. In response, Honourable Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman said that the idea of an independent accreditation agency would be taken to the Board for discussion, and shared that SIU is already working on recruiting researchers through the Young Investigators Meet in Agra, with interviews in progress and new researchers expected to join in the next 6–8 months.

Resolution Item No.11: IQAC: 16.04.2025

Resolved that the suggestions were noted for further consideration and action as appropriate



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Any other points with the permission of the Chair.

With no further points for discussion, the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from the Chairperson to all attendees.

For,

Dr. Hardik Vachharajani
Director of the IQAC

IQAC- 49/ 16/04/2025

Date: 23/04/2024

Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman
Chairperson of the IQAC