



Engaging Canada and India in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships



National Conference

May 9th, 2014 ♦ Carleton University, Ottawa

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Afternoon Program Agenda

Title: **Engaging Canada and India in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships**

Venue: Residence Common Building - Carleton University, Ottawa

Date: 9th May 2014

Time: 1:00 - 4:15pm

| Speaker | Topic/Theme | Duration | Time |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Dr. Shanthi Johnson President, Shastri Institute; Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Studies), Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina | Welcoming Address | 10 min | 1:05-1:15 |
| Panel 1: Engaging Canada and India in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships | | | |
| Dr. H. Deep Saini Vice President, University of Toronto | Emerging Trends and Patterns in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities. | 35 min | 1:15-1:50 |
| Dr. Margaret Walton Roberts Associate Professor, Geography, Wilfred Laurier University; Associate Director, International Migration Research Centre | Immigration and Education: Pathways from India to Canada | 35 min | 1:50-2:25 |
| Ms. Cynthia Murphy Director, Canadian Immigration Integration Project (CIIP), ACCC | New Perspectives in Vocational Education | 35 min | 2:25-3:00 |
| <i>Break : 3:00 - 3 :15 pm</i> | | | |
| Panel 2: Engaging Canada and India : Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships | | | |
| Mr. Peter Sutherland President and CEO, Canada-India Business Council | Canada-India Engagement at the Canada-India Business Council | 20 min | 3:15-3:30 |
| Mr. Kasi Rao Vice-President and Director, Toronto Office, Asia-Pacific Foundation | Canada-India Engagement at the Asia-Pacific Foundation | 20 min | 3:30-3:45 |
| Ms. Diane MacKay Director, Education, Skills and Immigration, Conference Board of Canada | Canada-India Engagement at the Conference Board of Canada | 20 min | 3:45-4:00 |
| Dr. Peter Ricketts Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Carleton University | Remarks from Carleton University | 10 min | 4:15-4:25 |
| Dr. Biju Paul Abraham Shastri Institute Vice President/President Elect; Professor, IIM-Kolkata | Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks. | 5 min | 4:25-4:30 |

Evening Program Agenda

Title: **Dinner Reception**
 Venue: Residence Common Building - Carleton University, Ottawa
 Date: 9th May 2014
 Time: 6:00 - 8:30 pm

| Speaker | Topic/Theme | Duration | Time |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Dr. Shanthi Johnson President, Shastri Institute; Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Studies), Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina | Opening Address | 10 min | 6:00-6:10 |
| Hon. Asha Seth Senator, Canadian Government | Canada-India Engagement | 15 min | 6:10-6:25 |
| Dr. Biju Paul Abraham Vice President/President Elect, Shastri Institute; Professor, IIM-Kolkata | Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks | 10 min | 6:25-6:35 |
| Dinner | 7:30-8:30 | | |

Event Summary

Ottawa, Carleton University, May 9, 2014: A National Conference on: “Engaging Canada and India in Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships” was organized by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI). The conference was attended by representatives from SICI’s forty Canadian Member universities, as well as delegates from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC), the Canada-India Business Council (C-IBC), the Asia Pacific Foundation (APF), and the Conference Board of Canada (CoBC). Also present were distinguished guests and speakers, Deputy High Commissioner of India, Mr. Tsewang Namgyal, and Senator Asha Seth.

The conference was opened by SICI’s Executive Director, Dr. Shanthi Johnson, who welcomed all attendees and participants, and delineated the importance of Canada-India educational partnerships. She also emphasized SICI’s role as a capacity-building organization fostering Canada-India linkages, at the governmental, institutional, and individual levels.

The first panel, “Challenges and Opportunities in Multilevel Trends and Sustainable Partnerships,” was chaired by Dr. Doris Jakobsh. The first talk was given by Dr. H. Deep Saini, who spoke on “Emerging Trends and Patterns in Higher Education.” He enumerated and expanded upon five relevant themes: issues in government funding; the increase transnational student mobility; preparation for jobs versus careers; the role of online learning; and the shift away from broad-based universities. Dr. Saini also discussed at length the relationship between the composition of international students in Canada and recent changes in the Indian education systems. The second speaker, Dr. Margaret Walton Roberts, gave a talk entitled “Immigration and Education: Pathways from India to Canada.” She covered issues surrounding the transition from international student to permanent resident, changes in Canada’s immigration policy and their impact on the Canada-India education relationship. Dr. Walton also identified numerous trends in Canada-India education and migration, including the nature skilled migration streams, changes from traditional migration norms, the role of recruiters in international post-secondary education, and the effects of regulatory and policy changes on education. Finally, Ms. Cynthia Murphy gave a talk entitled “New Perspectives in Vocational Education.” Ms. Murphy provided background information on the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) and their work in and with India. She also covered ACCC’s recent Memorandum of Understanding with the National Skills Development Corporation and the changing face of the Indian economy.

The second panel, “Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships,” was chaired by Dr. Rajesh Tyagi. The first speaker, Mr. Peter Sutherland, gave a talk on the role of the Canada-India Business Council (C-IBC) in developing relationships. He provided context for the C-IBC’s activities, including its desire to attract more educational institutions as members. He outlined several key elements of C-IBC’s activities: facilitating networking amongst Canadian businesses doing business in India; providing access to relevant decision-makers in both India and Canada; advocating for businesses; and providing information resources. The second speaker, Mr. Kasi Rao, spoke on the role of the

Asia-Pacific Foundation (APF). He spoke provided some contextual comments on the Canada-India relationship and described APF's activities in five points: conducting a national opinion poll amongst Canadians regarding India; incorporating Asia competencies into current dialogues; facilitating dialogue with Asian CEOs; facilitating thematic discussion on a variety of topics. Ms. Diane MacKay gave the third talk, on the role of the Conference Board of Canada's (CBoC) role in Canada-India relations. She spoke of CBoC's Leadership Group for University Vice-Presidents in Canada, the five-year initiative to develop a strategy for skills in post-secondary education, the CBoC's recent visit to India, and the need for a way of helping organizations new to India with their transition.

Dr. Peter Ricketts, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) at Carleton University then provided remarks from Carleton University. He spoke of the experience of visiting India, as well as Carleton's developing relationship with India. Dr. Ricketts spoke of the huge number of high-achieving Indian students and the relatively small number of Indian universities able to accept them, and of Canada's opportunities in this regard.

Finally, the afternoon session was concluded by Dr. Biju Paul Abraham, SICI's Vice-President and President Elect. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Abraham stressed the need to develop concrete programs regarding the issues raised over the afternoon, and SICI's desire to partner with organizations to develop such programs. He drew the afternoon to a close by providing a vote of thanks for all participants, hosts, and facilitators.

The conference was followed by a short evening program and reception. The evening was opened by Dr. Shanthi Johnson, who introduced the Honorable Dr. Asha Seth, Canadian Senator. Senator Seth acknowledged various delegates present for their contributions to the conference and gave a brief address. In her talk, Senator Seth emphasized the changing nature of Indian trade and the role of education in this development, stressing that "it is the quality of education and institutions that drives success." The program was brought to a close by Dr. Biju Paul Abraham, who gave closing remarks and a vote of thanks, and invited the guests to continue the day's conversations over dinner.

Event Photos



Event Participants

1. Dr. Biju Paul Abraham (Professor, Public Policy and Management, IIM-Calcutta; Vice-President and President Elect, Shastri Institute)
2. Ms. Mahmuda Aldeen (Program and Member Relations Officer, Shastri Institute)
3. Mr. Sabu Alexander (Finance and Public Relations Officer, Shastri Institute)
4. Ms. Emily Anderson (Project Manager, International Activities, Saint Mary's University)
5. Dr. Madhav Badami (Associate Professor, School of Urban Planning and School of the Environment, McGill University)
6. Dr. Ajoy Basak (Adjunct Professor, Interdisciplinary School of Health Science, University of Ottawa)
7. Ms. Claude Bibeau (Deputy Director, Policy and Planning, International and Youth Division, DFATD)
8. Dr. Patricia Dold (Associate Professor and Head of Gender Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Memorial University)
9. Mr. Chris Greenshields (Director, International Education, DFATD)
10. Dr. Doris Jakobsh (Associate Professor, Religious Studies, University of Waterloo)
11. Dr. Shanthi Johnson (Professor and Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina; President, Shastri Institute)
12. Ms. Diane MacKay (Director, Education, Skills and Immigration, Conference Board of Canada)
13. Ms. Marsha McEachrane-Mikhail (Director, Ryerson International and International Liaison Officer, Ryerson University)
14. Ms. Cynthia Murphy (Director, Canadian Immigration Integration Project, ACCC)
15. Dr. Prabir Neogi (Visiting Fellow, Canada-India Centre, Carleton University)
16. Ms. Amar Nijhawan (BYID Alumni, Shastri Institute)
17. Dr. Balakrishnan Prithiviraj (Associate Professor and Plant Stress Physiology Research Chair, Department of Environmental Sciences, Dalhousie University)
18. Dr. Regula Qureshi (Professor Emeritus, Department of Music, University of Alberta; Director, Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology)
19. Mr. S. Sajjad Rahman (Senior Fellow, University of Ottawa)
20. Dr. Rangaraj Rangayyan (Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Calgary)
21. Mr. Kasi Rao (Vice President and Director, Toronto Office, Asia-Pacific Foundation)
22. Dr. Peter Ricketts (Provost and Vice President (Academic), Carleton University)
23. Dr. Balbir Sahni (Professor Emeritus, Department of Economics, Concordia University)
24. Dr. H. Deep Saini (Vice President, University of Toronto)
25. Ms. Sandra Schinnerl (Director, Office of International Students and Scholars, Kwantlen Polytechnic University)
26. Hon. Asha Seth (Senator, Government of Canada)

27. Dr. Girish M. Shah (Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Laval University; Researcher and Laboratory Director, Centre Hospitalier de L'Université de Laval)
28. Dr. Rama Singh (Professor and Associate Chair (Research), Department of Biology, McMaster University)
29. Dr. Peter Sutherland (President and CEO, Canada-India Business Council)
30. Dr. Rajesh Kumar Tyagi (Assistant Professor, Department of Logistics and Operations Management, HEC Montréal; Secretary-Treasurer, Shastri Institute)
31. Dr. Gary vanLoon (Professor, Faculty of Chemistry, Queen's University)
32. Dr. Bilkis Vissandjee (Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Université de Montréal)
33. Dr. Margaret Walton Roberts (Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Wilfred Laurier University; Associate Director, International Migration Research Centre)
34. Ms. Maureen Woodhouse (Director, International Activities, Saint Mary's University)