



# AULA MAGNA



*An initiative by the Office of International Affairs & Collaborations, MAHE*



Cover picture courtesy: Dr Runjhun Saxena Subhanand with graduation in Dentistry from MAHE and post graduation in Oral Medicine and Radiology from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, has 6 years of industry experience in Pharmacovigilance and 4 years of clinical experience in private practice. The passion for drawing and writing never died and helped me to keep exploring for more.



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## Building a Better world together

Does a university have a moral responsibility to harness its wealth of resources for the greater good? To work side-by-side with others to help build a more just, sustainable society for all? Indeed, it does. That was our response to this question three years ago when we began pondering the question and building the framework for the University of British Columbia (UBC)'s new global engagement strategy, launched in April 2021. More a call-to-action than strategic plan, we named it In Service for a reason – because it sets a course to join with partners near and far, large and small, on co-creating solutions to some of the greatest challenges facing humanity today.

Without doubt, the world finds itself today in a turbulent time of pandemic, financial and climate insecurity, political polarization and a growing divide between the haves and have-nots. It is a time for bold action and steadfast commitment. Our response is to stand In Service: to tap into the extraordinary resources and collective capacity available to us as a leading university to tackle issues of relevance as a global actor on the world stage, to nurture students as global citizens both at home and abroad, and to empower communities around the globe by building local capacity addressing needs that communities themselves identify. As well, we want to do this on the basis of humility, not hubris; compassion, not competition; and engagement, not estrangement.

But we are only as strong as our partnerships. Central to In Service are strategic, mutually beneficial partnerships with other institutions of higher learning, such as Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), along with city and national governments, corporations, non-profit organizations and grassroots community groups. Not only does our impact increase exponentially when we are united, we can co-create solutions based on the latest innovative research and cutting-edge intelligence, and draw from the strength and cross-fertilization from experts spanning disciplines as well as countries and continents.

Just like MAHE, UBC is leading the global trend of progressive, future-minded universities – and governments – to expand study and research abroad opportunities, widen access and incorporate global curriculum for all students, attract international students and encourage impactful engagement around the world. And like MAHE, we also believe that diversity and inclusivity will be at the core of successful global collaboration.

To that end, UBC signed a partnership agreement with MAHE in May 2021, focusing on topics identified in the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals: for one, public health. Although researchers from both of our universities have been collaborating for years in the health sciences, this newly minted partnership is designed to both broaden and deepen academic and research collaborations between Canada and India.

One exciting initiative in which UBC is collaborating with universities around the world, including MAHE, is the Global Virtual Classroom, set to launch this year. The Global Virtual Classroom is a collaborative learning space where students from multiple institutions around the world are engaged in online, global-issues focused, interactive educational experiences. Each experience is co-designed or co-delivered by two or more institutions within an open network.

Yet, even as universities innovate, and think of new and exciting ways to shepherd our students in their global citizenship journeys, I think we can all agree that the path ahead will most certainly be rocky. The world has changed over the last few years, and so too must universities. We are optimistic, however, that as we cautiously emerge from the long shadow of this new crisis, voices are emerging that urge for greater collaboration, inclusion and multilateralism, so we can together bridge divides, and mutually benefit from the thinking and talent of partners

with whom our individual and collective futures are inexorably and inextricably linked. And as we have, in a very short period of time, witnessed the value of technology in teaching our students while they shelter in safe places across the globe, many feel that we might be arriving at a point in time where conversations about the democratization of education could yield more tangible results – and set us on a technology-paved path towards greater access to education for all.

Change is never easy, though, especially when it is meaningful and lasting. It is at moments such as these that we must return to our roots and reaffirm ourselves to the simple but profound African philosophy of Ubuntu, a Nguni Bantu term meaning “humanity,” and often translated into the sentiment, “I am because we are.”

*–‘In Service’ is UBC’s call-to-action to tackle issues of global relevance with partners and internationalize education for all, by Dr. Murali Chandrashekar, University of British Columbia Vice-Provost, International*

“

It is a time for bold action and steadfast commitment. Our response is to stand In Service: to tap into the extraordinary resources and collective capacity available to us as a leading university....to nurture students as global citizens both at home and abroad, and to empower communities around the globe by building local capacity addressing needs that communities themselves identify.

”



**Dr. Murali Chandrashekar,**  
University of British Columbia

## MCODS and QMUL join hands to make learning more innovative and fun for students

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal (MCODS, Manipal) and Queen Mary University London (QMUL), in December, 2021. This MOA sets out a framework whereby suitably qualified students who have completed their five year undergraduate degree at MCOADS, Manipal, may apply to QMUL to study a Master's degree subject that guarantees satisfactory performance and suitability of the programme of study at MCOADS, Manipal. QMUL will arrange a simplified application process for students of MCOADS, Manipal and selected students are eligible for the 10% partner-student discount on standard QMUL tuition fees.



### Dr Nirmal secured his place at the Young Scientist Programme

Dr. Nirmal Mazumder, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biophysics at Manipal School of Life Sciences was the FAOBMB Young Scientist Programme (YSP) awardee 2021, at the 16th Congress of the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Biochemists and Molecular Biologists (FAOBMB). It was held in New Zealand from November 22 to 25, 2021.

## MAHE Researchers Leading Worldwide

On November 22, 2021, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) proudly announced its recent achievement of its researchers being recognized in the top 2 percentile rank of scientists worldwide in the study by researchers from Stanford University. Six researchers from the Manipal Academy of Higher Education are in the prestigious list of researchers. In an official function, they were felicitated by Lt General ( Dr ) MD Venkatesh, VC –MAHE, Dr PLNG Rao , Pro –VC MAHE , Dr Narayana Sabhahit, Registrar - MAHE along with other senior officials of MAHE. Further to this achievement, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, said,

“Our hearty congratulations to Dr Raja Selvaraj, Dr Raghavendra U, Dr Ali Tanweer, Dr Acharya Shashidhar, Dr Mutalik Srinivas, and Dr Satheesha Nayak B for being recognized in the top 2 percentile rank of scientists worldwide in the study by researchers from Stanford University. We at MAHE are extremely proud of our researchers who all are making a mark on the global level. This is a great moment of celebration for us as our researchers have repeatedly proved to be among the best in the world. Our best wishes to all the researchers and we look forward to more such achievements in the near future.”



### Alumni Engagement Event Stands to be an Informative Talk for Students.

As a part of Alumni Engagement, a talk was given by Dr. Vishnu Modur, an Alumnus who studied BSc Biotechnology during 2005-2008 and MSc Medical Biotechnology during 2008-2010 at Manipal Academy of Higher Education. He is currently working as a Research Scientist at the Division of Experimental Hematology and Cancer Biology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, US. The talk was held on November 27, 2021. The lecture was on the topic, 'Blowing Hot and Cold: Tolerance in Anti-tumor Immunity and Perseverance in Becoming A Life Scientist.'

## Wall-E Could Eradicate E-Waste, Thanks to Arpit

Arpit Baj, a second-year student at Manipal Institute of Technology participated in the Transformers 2021. Transformers is a social entrepreneurship competition organized by TALSCOUTS, a Santa Clara, California based organization. The challenge is mainly conducted in the US, India, UK, Canada and Australia. The goal of the competition was to keep the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals in focus and come up with ideas to benefit the society. Arpit with his idea of 'WALL-E' planned and researched on eradicating e-waste. He aimed at a customer-centric approach that made the entire supply chain profitable. Arpit was awarded with a certificate and cash prize, but the biggest prize was being able to make connections with mentors worldwide.



## Mars Rover Manipal Reached New Heights, Bringing Fame and Pride to the Institute

Mars Rover Manipal, at Manipal Institute of Technology, a twenty four-member team of second and third year Engineering students, bagged the 4th position in the 7th edition of the European Rover Challenge Remote Edition 2021 (ERC). Additionally, the team also received the award for the Best Performing Team in the Presentation Task.

The European Rover Challenge Remote Edition is an annual robotics event where teams from all across the globe compete to develop software, capable of remotely executing tasks on a rover and operating a universal robotic arm (UR3). This year, the competition saw 32 teams from 10 countries participating, including teams from well-renowned universities from across the globe.



## MCHP Brings Home the Prestigious RMPTA Award

Ms. Komal Aggarwal a postgraduate student and her mentor Dr. Krishna Y (Professor & Associate Dean, MCHP) at the Department of Speech and Hearing, MCHP, received the prestigious Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award (RMPTA) for the year 2021. This award is offered in conjunction with the Research Symposium which brings together clinicians and researchers at American Speech and Hearing Association's Annual convention in order to discuss current research that has important implications for the study of communication processes and disorders. This award offers research mentoring experience to students who show promise as emerging scientists.



### Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award (RMPTA) Recipients

The Research Symposium aims to bring together clinicians and researchers at ASHA's Annual Convention, in order to discuss current research that has important implications for the study of communication processes and disorders. Each year's symposium focuses on a specific research theme. Research is presented by invited speakers who are experts in their fields. The Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award (RMPTA) is offered in conjunction with this program, in order to provide a research mentoring experience to students who show promise as emerging scientists.

Protégé	Mentor	Year
Komal Aggarwal, Manipal Academy of Higher Education	Krishna Yerraguntla, Manipal Academy of Higher Education	2021

**Ms. Komal Aggarwal, MCHP, Manipal**

## Dr Janice Marjorie shares Words of Wisdom at MCHP

Department of Medical Laboratory Technology, Manipal College of Health Professions conducted an adjunct faculty guest lecture on November 30, 2021. It was conducted by Dr. Janice Marjorie Conway-Klaassen who is an Associate Professor & Director, Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, Mildred King Rohwer Chair in Medical Technology at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, United States.



**MANIPAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**  
MANIPAL  
A constituent unit of MAHE, Manipal

**Department of Medical Laboratory Technology**

Organizing  
Guest Lecture  
by

**Dr. Janice M. Conway-Klaassen**  
PhD, MLR(ASCP)QW/SMCM, FACS  
**Adjunct Faculty Dept. of MLT, MCHP, MAHE**  
Professor and Director  
Medical Laboratory Sciences Program  
Mildred King Rohwer Chair in Medical Technology  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis

Topic:  
**Overview of NAACLS Accreditation and Processes & NAACLS Standards and Curriculum**

**30th November, 2021 | 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM**

Through Microsoft Teams  
<https://bit.ly/3FOZPjd>

Ms. Anona Varghese  
Program Coordinator  
MLT, MCHP, MAHE, Manipal

Dr Saritha Kamath U  
Head of the Department  
MLT, MCHP, MAHE, Manipal

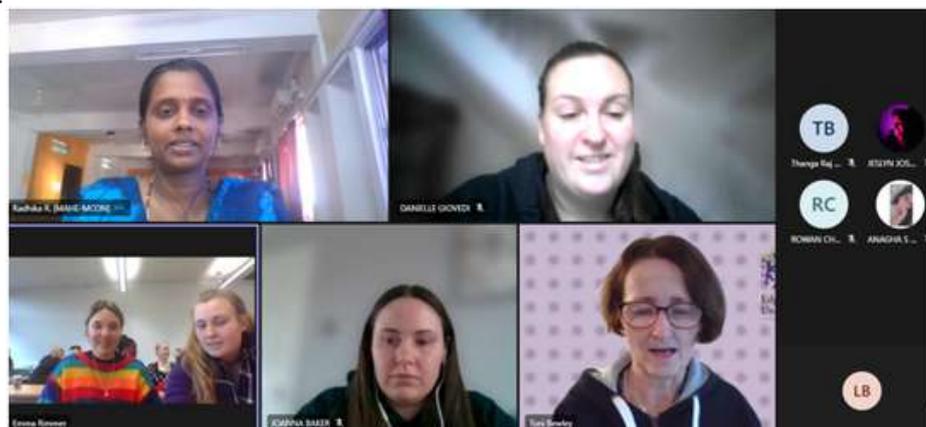
Dr G Arun Malya  
DEAN  
MCHP, MAHE, Manipal

## Sharing International Perspectives of Nurse Training in the UK and India

Department of Fundamentals of Nursing, Manipal College of Nursing (MCON), MAHE, Manipal and Department of Nursing, Edge Hill University, UK, organized Academic Student Collaboration Series- 4 on “Sharing International perspectives of nurse training in the UK and India” on December 3, 2021.

The event started with the keynote from Dr. Toni Bewley, Senior Lecturer, Department of Nursing, Edge Hill University, who briefed the course on BSc nursing and social work at Edge Hill University. The session continued with the student interaction from both universities discussing the pandemic's impact on the academic activities. The main issues for discussion raised were; challenges faced during the pandemic concerning classroom and clinical activities, method of course delivery during the pandemic, the pattern of examination, scope of the course, and placement opportunities.

The session was concluded by Dr. Radhika, Assistant Professor from MCON, who briefed the holistic health delivery in an Indian setting and various specialty exposure given to the student nurses in their course for clinical practice. A total of 27 participants (11 national and 16 international) from MAHE and Edge Hill University participated in this event.



**Sharing international perspectives of Nurse Training in the UK and India- An Insightful Webinar**

## DAILAB Café-68 Series by Dr Yu Zhang Proves to be Enlightening to the Audience

A part of DAILAB Café-68, a seminar was conducted by Dr. Yu ZHANG, Research Fellow, AI Research Promotion Office, Research Center for Agricultural Information Technology, National Agricultural Food Research Organization (NARO), Japan on October 18, 2021.

The topic of the seminar was ‘Application of AI and Imaging Techniques to Realize High-quality Stable Production in Smart Agriculture.’



## MCODS and KCL Build Bridges in Learning between Countries

Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal and Kings College London, organised a virtual student exchange program for undergraduate and postgraduate students. It was spread over three sessions between November and December 2021. Seven students from MCO DS, Manipal and six students from KCL took part in this event. First session compared the UK and Indian Dental education systems, healthcare systems and various postgraduate opportunities in the respective countries. Second session focused on faculty presentations on understanding of the fundamentals and applications of lasers in dentistry, the applications, benefits and limitations of simulators in teaching and learning, in the context of dentistry. The impact of Covid-19 pandemic on education and the difference in responses in the UK and India was addressed. Third session was aimed at sharing previous and ongoing students' social and cultural activities in respective campuses that promoted well-being, inclusion, diversity, and cultural awareness.

## Cultures Amalgamate at Manipal Institute of Communication through MAHE-Deakin Janapada

Manipal Institute of Communication, Manipal Academy of Higher Education and Asian Media and Culture's Network, Deakin University, in association with Association Nationale Cultures Du Monde (ANCM), France, International Dance Council Indian Consulate, Melbourne, ICCR, Bengaluru, Karnataka Chalanachitra Academy, Bangalore and Mythic Society, Bangalore organised a virtual folklore festival, titled 'MAHE Deakin Janapada', as an attempt to celebrate, educate, investigate and create an awareness regarding the processes of cultural preservation and cultural change.



The term jana-pada, often used in south Indian languages, refers to folklore, a rich aspect of any culture. It's made of two terms Jana meaning people and pada meaning medium. An international festival of this nature is one of the best means to safeguard, promote and also diffuse the intangible cultural heritage. The cultural expressions through music, dance and performance contributes significantly to the enhancement of Karnataka's cultural identity and diversity and such a virtual folklore festival provides an appropriate platform. The festival was organised on the occasion of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' with the target that such a unique and evolutionary international cultural folklore festival will support exchange of the folk forms as it becomes a meeting place of cultures as the participants from both sides will give an insight into their folk traditions promoting a culture of peace,



which has been the primary objective of the partnering universities.

The entire festival is broken up into two segments, with the first extremely successful segment being the virtual folk festival that was spread over four weekends from 27th November 2021 till 8th December 2021 for two hours each Saturday. The second segment will be the Intangible Cultural heritage Film festival. Film makers have been invited to submit films (factual, documentary or experimental) that explore any aspect of the Intangible Cultural Heritage which can include folklore, nature-culture, rites, rituals, tales, oral histories and others.

## MAHE makes it to Top 40 under 40 list

#EuropeIndia40, is in its 3rd year of searching for Top 40 under 40 Europe India Leaders. It is organized by EICBI with the motive to bring to light the stories of 40 young leaders, who are below the age of 40, highlighting their efforts in encouraging EU India-UK India relations. Dr Dhanashree Jayaram, Faculty, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, MAHE and Sushmitha Roy, Research Scholar, Manipal Centre for European Studies, MAHE make their way to the list.

Dr. Dhanasree Jayaram, Assistant Professor, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations and Co-coordinator, Center for Climate Studies, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, has been selected as one of the 40 young leaders below the age of 40 for her contributions to promote India-EU relations by the Europe India Center for Business and Industry (EICBI) – an independent, nonpartisan organization that promotes business opportunities across various sectors between India and UK/ EU. She participated in the virtual event wherein the Leaders' List was released on November 5, 2021. The virtual ceremony was attended by Members of Parliament from the British Parliament, European Parliament, Indian Parliament; it also included representation from the EU delegation in India. Through the #EuropeIndia40 initiative of EICBI, she is further expected to advance India-EU cooperation in the various fields, such as climate change, research, and higher education.

"The unique program at Manipal Center for European Studies, MAHE allowed me to study for a year abroad, travel, network and understand socio-economic and geopolitical dynamics around the world. Given the fact that the vibrant culture of international students, faculties and events facilitated by the International office of MAHE did enhance my skills and abilities to work closely with my alma mater in Latvia and other European partners. I consider it a privilege to have been selected for Europe under 40 – Top 40 under 40 Europe India leaders list and acknowledge the great support of MAHE, for my recognition. In future, I look forward to closely working with MAHE, the International office and MCES in celebrating diversity and cultures benefiting all the stakeholders especially the students."



**Dr. Dhanashree Jayaram,**  
MS, PhD



**Ms. Sushmita Roy,**  
PhD Scholar

## MAHE observes the International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The Department of Speech & Hearing, Manipal College of Health Professions (MCHP), Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) in collaboration with Dr TMA Pai Hospital Udupi observed International day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) on December 3, 2021, at TMA Pai Hospital, Udupi.

The theme for IDPD 2021 was “Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world”. Based on the theme put forward by the United Nations, the Department took an initiative by organizing a public awareness through poster presentations on various communication disorders and its impact on Quality of life. The need for an inclusive and accessible environment for the disabled post COVID 19 was emphasized. Pamphlets on facilities available from the Government to the disabled population were distributed to the public.



The event was marked by the presence of Dr. Arun Maiya (Dean, MCHP), Dr Shashikiran Umakanth (Medical Superintendent, Dr TMA Pai Hospital Udupi), Dr Krishna Y (Associate Dean, MCHP), Dr. Usha Devadas (HOD, Dept. of Speech & Hearing), Dr Deepa N Devadiga, & Dr Archana G, (Program Coordinators).



## MAHE Goes Green(er)

The Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE - Manipal) ranked 137 in the global ranking and 2nd among Indian universities in the annual UI GreenMetric World University.

A total of 956 Universities from 80 countries participated in the rankings this year.

The ranking recognized universities' contribution across the world to policies and actions related to green campus and environmental sustainability.

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