

Press Note

Symbiosis International University and University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law Sign Landmark MOU

Pune, India

In a significant step towards fostering international academic collaboration, Symbiosis International (Deemed University) [SIU] and the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law [UNH Franklin Pierce] are set to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This partnership aims to enhance academic and research collaboration between the two prestigious institutions.

The MOU signing ceremony will be attended by distinguished representatives from both universities. From SIU, Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, *Fulbright* Scholar Director and Dean Faculty of Law, and Jean Monnet Chair Professor, will be present. UNH Franklin Pierce will be represented by Dean Megan Carpenter, Dean and Professor of Law, and named by National Jurist as one of the Most Influential People in Legal Education, along with Ms. Sarah Dorner, Assistant Dean for Graduate Admissions and International Outreach. Attorney Richard Samdperil, who serves as an Adjunct Professor at UNH Franklin Pierce and Scholar in Residence at Symbiosis Law School, Pune, will also attend. Dr. Anupama Kotur will represent the Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE).

The MOU firms up the current collaboration of faculty mobility, student mobility and online lectures amongst others. It further outlines several key areas of cooperation, including academic and research collaboration in areas of mutual interest, exchange of academic information and scholarly materials. The institutions will also jointly sponsor seminars, workshops, and academic meetings, and explore collaborative programs such as pathways, dual, and joint degree programs.

A notable feature of this agreement is a progression arrangement that offers SIU law graduates the opportunity to enter master's programs at UNH Franklin Pierce with a 35% tuition scholarship for qualified students and credit transfer. This provision is expected to significantly enhance international academic opportunities for SIU students, especially those interested in studying in the specialized areas of Intellectual Property, Commerce and Technology, and International Criminal Law and Justice

This partnership brings together two institutions with complementary strengths. SIU with top ranked SLS Pune as IP Cell Advisor is known for its multi-disciplinary approach and innovative ethos, while UNH Franklin Pierce is renowned for its top-ranked US School of Global Innovation and Intellectual Property Law. It has linkages with NASA, Microsoft, John Hopkins amongst others. The collaboration promises to open new avenues for students and faculty alike, fostering cross-cultural learning and academic excellence in the field of law.

Set to run for five years with the possibility of renewal, this MOU marks a long-term commitment to international academic cooperation. It is expected to yield significant benefits for both institutions, enhancing their global presence and offering students and faculty expanded opportunities for growth and development.