

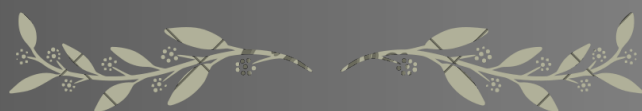
# PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

# NEWSLETTER

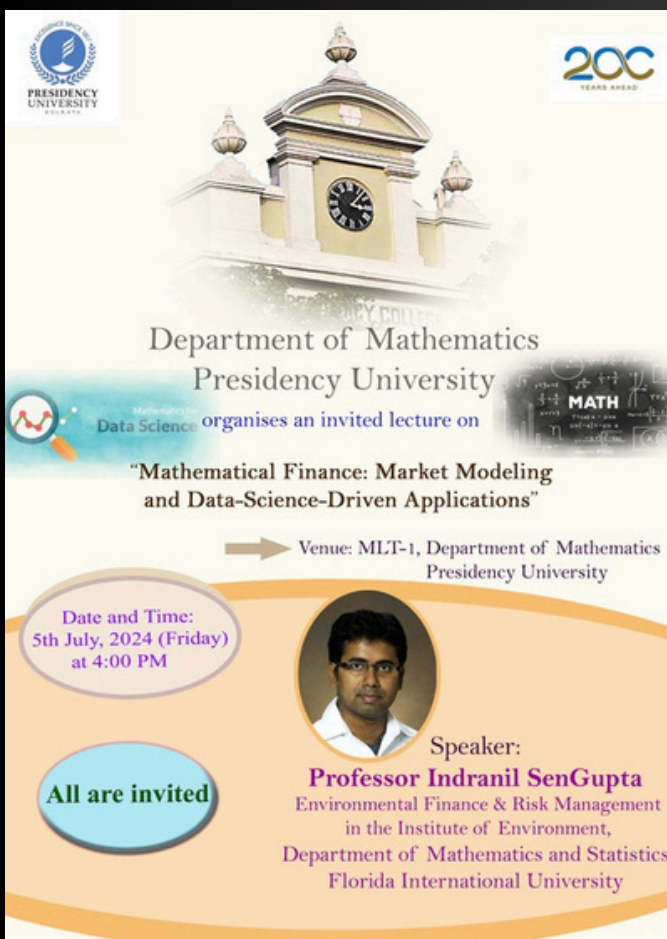
JULY, 2024

# AT A GLANCE

1. **Special lecture at Department of Mathematics titled: "Mathematical Finance: Market Modelling and Data-Science-Driven Applications"**.
2. **Colloquium at the School of Astrophysics titled, "Changing-Look AGN: Challenging Our Understanding of Active Galactic Nuclei."**
3. **Special lecture on "Sufi Poetry and Theosophy: The Sindhi Contribution to the Making of a Universal Spirituality" at Department of History**
4. **COBRA 2024 (Conference on Blazars and Restless AGN)-Workshop**
5. **Webinar at Department of Geography titled: "The Routes to Food Security: Strategies and Challenges to Survival (Bangladesh and India)"**
6. **Colloquium series at Institute of Health Sciences on "Zebrafish paves the way for future regenerative medicine and biomedical research"**
7. **Swapan Chakravorty Memorial Lecture**
8. **Events by the NSS Cell**
9. **Success Stories**



# "Mathematical Finance: Market Modelling and Data-Science-Driven Applications".



The poster features the Presidency University logo and a '200 YEARS AHEAD' emblem. It includes a photograph of a building with a clock tower. The text on the poster reads: 'Department of Mathematics Presidency University organises an invited lecture on "Mathematical Finance: Market Modeling and Data-Science-Driven Applications"'. The venue is 'MLT-1, Department of Mathematics Presidency University'. The date and time are '5th July, 2024 (Friday) at 4:00 PM'. The speaker is 'Professor Indranil SenGupta', with his photo and affiliation: 'Environmental Finance & Risk Management in the Institute of Environment, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Florida International University'. A blue oval contains the text 'All are invited'.

Department of Mathematics, Presidency University, Kolkata organized a special lecture by Prof. Indranil SenGupta on 5th July (Friday), 2024 at the Department of Mathematics. Prof. Indranil SenGupta, Professor at the Environmental Finance & Risk Management in the Institute of Environment, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Florida International University delivered his valuable insight on "Mathematical Finance: Market Modelling and Data-Science-Driven Applications". Through the talk stretching over one hour, Prof. SenGupta shared his research on using tools of machine learning and data science how the loss incurred in stock market investments can be minimised. He also explored on some methods of portfolio optimization.

Through discussion on weather derivative and catastrophe bond Prof. SenGupta opens up a new field of modern research to our researchers and students. The talk became a source of motivation for those students who are willing to know about the field of mathematical finance and data science. More than twenty five students including our research scholars participated in this lecture.



# Colloquium at the School of Astrophysics titled, "Changing-Look AGN: Challenging Our Understanding of Active Galactic Nuclei."

A colloquium was held at the School of Astrophysics on 10th July, 2024 on the topic, "Changing-Look AGN: Challenging Our Understanding of Active Galactic Nuclei." Dr. Arghajit Jana, FONDECYT Fellow, Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile, was invited as the speaker for the event.



The changing-look active galactic nuclei (CLAGN) switches between type-1 and type-2 spectral state. The rapid transition can not be explained by the unification model of AGNs, which has been used to explain the AGN phenomenon over four decades. The reason for the CL transition is still unclear and subject to active research.



The event was met with great appreciation and served as a great motivator for young aspiring astrophysicists to delve deeper into such topics.



# Sufi Poetry and Theosophy: The Sindhi Contribution to the Making of a Universal Spirituality


THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY, CORDIALLY  
INVITES YOU ALL TO A LECTURE ON

**SUFI POETRY AND THEOSOPHY:  
THE SINDHI CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
MAKING OF A UNIVERSAL SPIRITUALITY**

Michel Boivin

Michel Boivin is the Emeritus Director of Research at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and a member of the Centre for the Studies of South Asia and the Himalayas (CESAH). Former director of the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (CEIAS), he teaches and supervises PhD students at the School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS).

DATE: Monday, July 15, 2024  
TIME: 11:00 AM  
VENUE: A. K. BASAK AUDITORIUM



Michel Boivin, the Emeritus Director of Research at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and a member of the Centre for the Studies of South Asia and the Himalayas (CESAH), former director of the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (CEIAS), and faculty at the School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (EHESS), delivered a lecture at the Department of History, Presidency University on 15th July, 2024. Boivin illuminated the profound and unique role played by Sindhi intellectuals from the late 19th century to the present day in the construction of a universal spirituality. Both Muslims and Hindus, particularly the latter, embraced the concepts of the Theosophical Society and forged a universal discourse of spirituality.



The lecture delved into the methodology implemented by the Sindhi intelligentsia, for example, the publication of Sindhi Sufi poetry, as well as the performances they organize, such as the Darazi satsangs, named after Daraza, the place in Sindh where Sachal Sarmast's dargah is situated.



# COBRA 2024 (Conference on Blazars and Restless AGN)- Workshop

The First National conference at School of Astrophysics Consisted of 2-Day Workshop and 3-Day conference was held at the PC Mahalanobis Auditorium in Presidency University, on 22nd July, 2024 and 26 July, 2024. The event started with registration and an inaugural ceremony.

Workshop Day 1 - Monday, 22nd July, 2024 Morning session was carried out by the speaker Vaidehi Paliya from IUCAA commenced with Introduction to AGN and later in the Afternoon session Speaker Sunder Sahayanathan from BARC presented Theoretical Aspects of AGN.

Workshop Day 2 - Tuesday, 23rd July, 2024 Morning session was continued with by the speaker Sunder Sahayanathan Theoretical Aspects of AGN which followed by Speaker Vaidehi Paliya on Observational Aspects of AGN and later in the Afternoon session we have got two distinguish speaker Indranil Chattopadhyay, ARIES and Debanjan Bose, Central Univ. of Kashmir gave lectures on theoretical aspects.



Day 1- provided a comprehensive overview of current research on AGN and blazars. Talks delivered by Sagar Godambe and Bhargav Vaidya.



Day 3- the third and final day of the conference offered further insights into the complex nature of AGN, with a particular emphasis on X-ray observations and their role in understanding these enigmatic objects.

Day 2- Anindya Sarkar presented his work on the jet power of Mkn 501. Pinaki Das offered insights into the high energy emission processes in misaligned active galaxies, expanding our understanding of these complex systems. Finally, Souvik Roy concluded the day with a presentation on the X-ray properties of newly discovered AGNs,



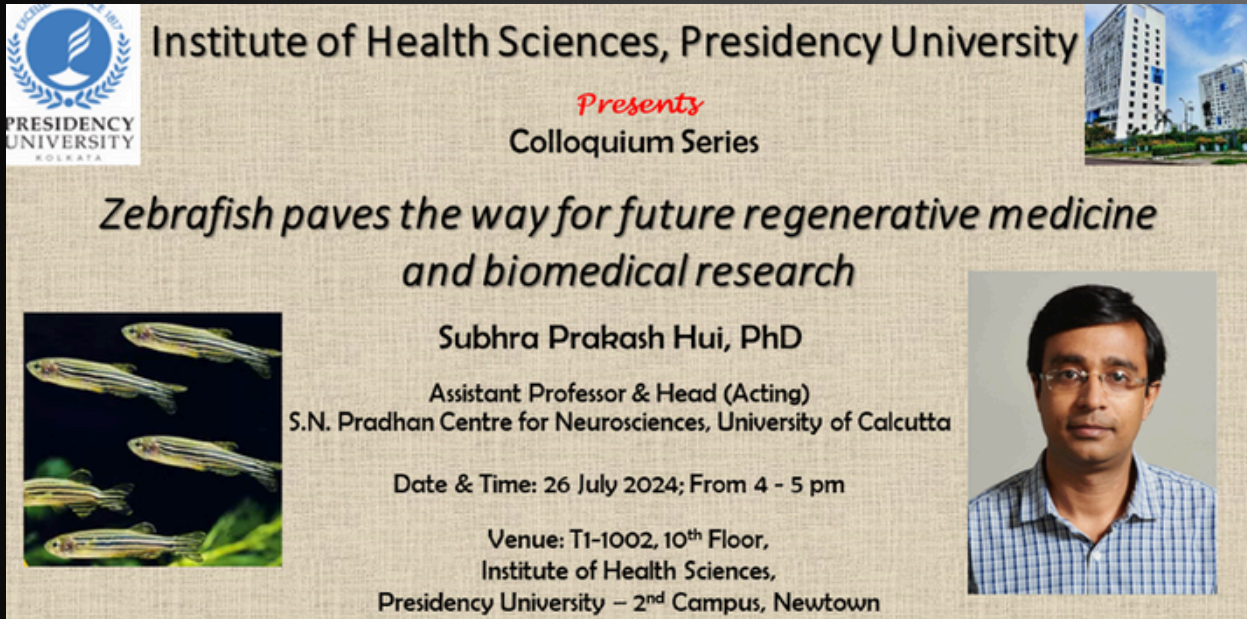
# The Routes to Food Security: Strategies and Challenges to Survival (Bangladesh and India)



A webinar was organized at the Department of Geography on 25th July, 2024, where Dr. Taneesha Mohan was invited as the resource person. The speaker presented her research on comparative study of India and Bangladesh's shrimp industry, which highlights how the current labour market regime is generating precarious lives and a growing invisible labour force.



Colloquium series at Institute of Health Sciences  
on “Zebrafish paves the way for future  
regenerative medicine and biomedical research”



The poster features the Presidency University Kolkata logo on the top left and a building image on the top right. The title is centered in a large, bold font. Below the title, the speaker's name and title are listed, followed by the date, time, and venue. A portrait of Dr. Subhra Prakash Hui is on the right, and a photo of zebrafish is on the left.

Institute of Health Sciences, Presidency University  
*Presents*  
Colloquium Series

*Zebrafish paves the way for future regenerative medicine  
and biomedical research*

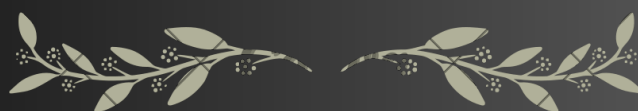
Subhra Prakash Hui, PhD  
Assistant Professor & Head (Acting)  
S.N. Pradhan Centre for Neurosciences, University of Calcutta

Date & Time: 26 July 2024; From 4 - 5 pm

Venue: T1-1002, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Institute of Health Sciences,  
Presidency University – 2<sup>nd</sup> Campus, Newtown

The Institute of Health Sciences at Presidency University hosted a colloquium on July 26, 2024, featuring Dr. Subhra Prakash Hui, a leading figure in neuroscience from the University of Calcutta. The event took place at the university's second campus in Newtown.

The colloquium was well-attended by students, researchers, and faculty members of the Institute of Health Sciences, who actively participated in the Q&A session that followed the talk. The event provided a platform for intellectual exchange and showcased the latest advancements in regenerative medicine and neuroscience.

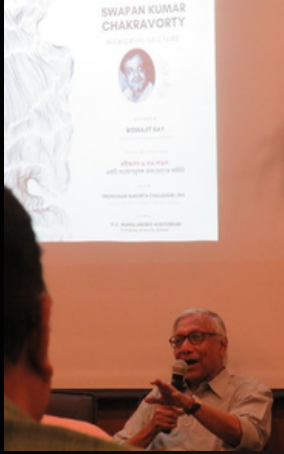




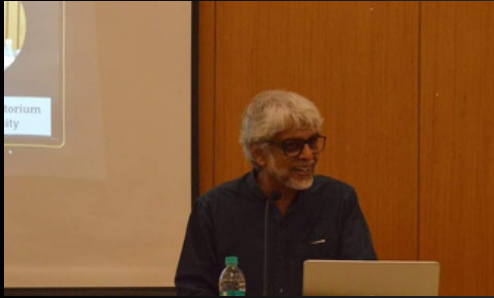
# Prof. Swapan Chakravorty Memorial

## Lecture

In memory of Swapan Chakravorty, the first 'Swapan Kumar Chakravorty Memorial Lecture' was organized by the magazine Asamapika on Tuesday, July 16, at the Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Hall of Presidency University.



The lecture was delivered by Shri Biswajit Roy, who spoke on the topic 'Rabindranath and the Hand-Plow: A Tale of Connected Disconnection.' The event was presided over by Professor Sukanta Chaudhuri. The program was successfully conducted with the spontaneous participation of students, researchers, professors, and, above all, former students of beloved Swapan da.



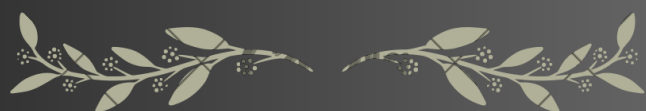
The Department of English, Presidency University also hosted the first Swapan Kumar Chakravorty Memorial Lecture on 29 July 2024 at the PC Mahalanobis Auditorium. The lecture was delivered by Prof Udaya Kumar, who teaches at the Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Titled "Realist Fictionality, Narrative Voice and the Social: Caste and the Novel Form in India", the lecture brought together a number of luminaries from academia and beyond.



Before Prof Kumar took to the podium, Dr Sumit Chakrabarti of the Department of English initiated a brief memorial programme where many of the late Dr Chakravorty's students, now themselves stalwarts of their fields, immersed in a journey of reminiscence and celebration of his lasting professional and personal legacy. This list included eminent scholars and professors like Prof Sukanta Chaudhuri, Prof Shanta Dutta, Prof Brinda Bose and so on. The invited speakers too began his lecture by sharing his experiences with Prof Chakravorty.



The lecture was concluded in the midst of a big round of applause. Dr Kalyan Kumar Das of the English Department ended the lecture with a vote of thanks. The memorial lecture was not only intellectually engaging and enriching, but also became a marker of continuity of the academic and literary heritage that the English Department of Presidency bears with pride.



# Events by the NSS Cell

## • Van Mahotsav-2024

On July 16th 2024, NSS Unit 3, led by the Program Officer of Unit,

Dr. Puja Ray and accompanied by three volunteers, participated in the Van Mahotsav event held at Eden Gardens. This event was a significant initiative aimed at promoting environmental awareness and encouraging the community to plant more trees. Van Mahotsav, an annual tree-planting festival in India, serves as a reminder of the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance and ensuring a healthier environment.

During the event, Unit 3 was invited to collect 100 plant saplings, which were generously distributed to promote afforestation. These saplings were then planted in various spaces within the university campus to raise awareness among students and the general public about the critical role plants play in our lives. .

The participation in the Van Mahotsav event was a commendable effort to foster a greener environment and instill the value of environmental conservation in the younger generation.



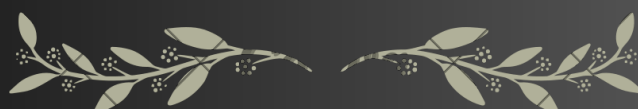
## • Vikshit Bharat@2047 (Yuvamanthan Panel Discussion):

The National Service Scheme (NSS), in collaboration with the Presidency University Debate Society, successfully organised an event on 24.07.2024 under the theme "Lifestyle for Environment: Engaging the Youth in a Global Dialogue on International Diplomacy, Leadership, and Collective Duty". The initiative is part of the broader Viksit Bharat platform, a dynamic endeavour to envision and build an inclusive, progressive India with a strong focus on empowering the youth.

The event brought together 80 participants from various colleges, including students from Presidency University. The aim was to engage youth in meaningful discussions on critical global issues, encouraging them to actively shape the future.

A highlight of the event was the interactive panel discussion featuring a distinguished group of panellists who shared valuable insights into international diplomacy and leadership. This session was expertly moderated by Dr. Tanwir Arshad, Professor at the Department of Political Science at Presidency University. Innovative lifestyle ideas were presented, encouraging participants to adopt practices that positively impact the environment.

The session resonated well with the audience, sparking a vibrant and interactive dialogue. The social impact of the event was significant, as it empowered the youth to explore new perspectives on diplomacy and leadership while considering their collective responsibility toward the environment.



## • Cyber Crime Awareness Drive-2024

On July 24, 2024, Dr. Jayeeta Deshmukh, Program Officer of NSS Unit-1 and Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, organised a Cyber Crime Awareness Drive aimed at educating students on cyber safety and equipping them to become 'Cyber Volunteers.' The session introduced students to the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, emphasising the significance of reporting and addressing cybercrimes.

The primary objective of the program was to prepare NSS volunteers and students for the role of Cyber Volunteers, a new initiative aligned with the "Cyber Jaagrookta (Awareness) Diwas" mandate issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Participants were informed about the concept of cyber volunteering, including eligibility criteria, registration procedures, and the various functionalities available to volunteers. A total of 18 students actively participated in the awareness program.

This initiative is part of a broader effort to foster a vigilant and informed community capable of combating cybercrimes effectively. The Ministry of Home Affairs is set to implement the "Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)" scheme, and the awareness drive was a step towards preparing students to contribute to this national endeavour.



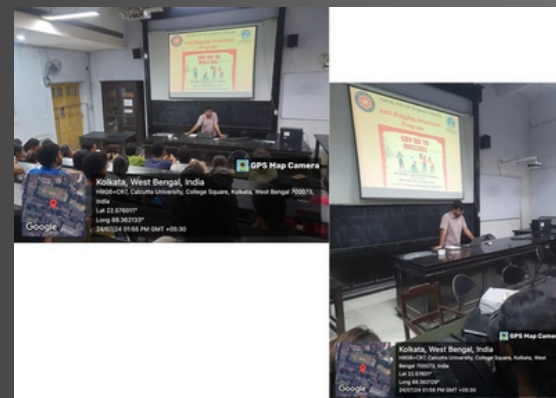
## • Anti-Ragging Drive 2024

On July 24th, 2024, Dr. Puja Ray, Assistant Professor of Life Sciences and Program Officer of NSS Unit 3 at Presidency University, led an impactful anti-ragging drive on campus. The initiative aimed to raise students' awareness of the serious consequences of ragging and promote a culture of respect, health, and well-being within the university community.

35 dedicated volunteers, including 10 male and 25 female students, actively participated in the event. Dr. Puja Ray emphasized the importance of maintaining a safe and inclusive environment for all students, urging them to stand against any form of ragging or harassment. She highlighted how fostering a supportive and positive atmosphere on campus not only enhances students' well-being but also ignites their minds for a better future.

Through motivational talks and interactive sessions, the volunteers were encouraged to become ambassadors of change, spreading the message of anti-ragging and promoting harmonious relationships among their peers. The drive also served as a platform to discuss the significance of mental health and the role of students in creating a nurturing academic environment.

The successful execution of this drive underlined the university's commitment to ensuring a ragging-free campus, and the volunteers' active involvement demonstrated their dedication to upholding these values.



# SUCCESS CORNER

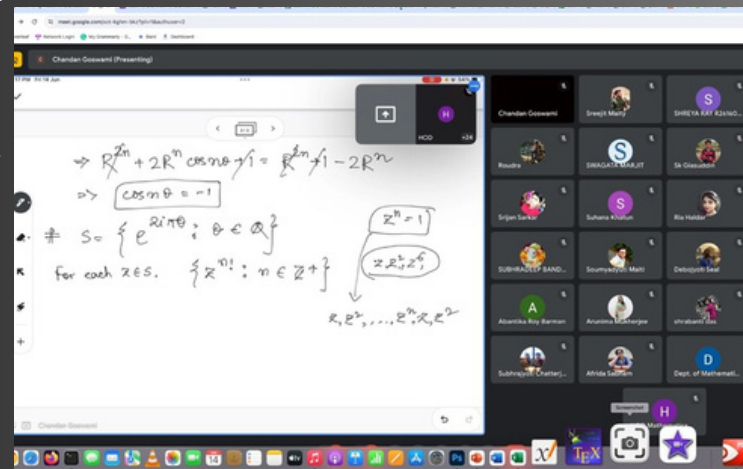
- Book launch of Prof. Sreemati Mukherjee**

Prof. Sreemati Mukherjee of the Department of Performing Arts launched her latest book titled 'Women and the Romance of the Word: 19th Century Contexts in Bengal, published by Bloomsbury India ( April 2024) and is available in U.K., U.S.A, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The launch was on July 27 .Featured by The Telegraph on August 2 in their T2, page 6.



- Outreach Program organized by Research Scholars for Competitive Examinations- 2024”**

The research scholars of the department of Mathematics at Presidency University, Kolkata, successfully organized an online outreach program titled "Advanced Classes for Competitive Examinations-2024". The program ran from June 14th to 21st, 2024 comprising a total of 10 classes. The subsequent classes were delivered by research scholars namely Mr. Chandan Goswami, Mr. Akash Banerjee, Mr. Alamgir Hossain, Mr. Sauvik Poddar, Rudra Pratap Saha and Mr. Aniket Basak, a project student from IISER Berhampur.



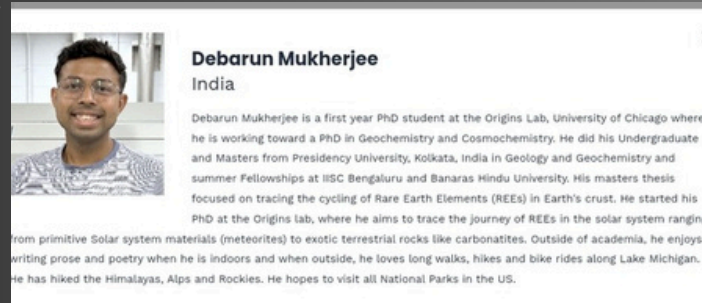
Dr. Avishek Adhikari, Professor and Head of the Department, welcomed the students in the inaugural session. Designed to enhance students' preparation for competitive exams, particularly NET and GATE, the program attracted over sixty participants from various institutes within and outside West Bengal. Notably, students from Assam University and IITs like Roorkee, Patna, and Palakkad were regular attendees.



# SUCCESS CORNER

- Presidency Student, Mr. Debarun Mukherjee awarded the QUAD fellowship

A student of the famed Department of Geology of Presidency University, Mr. Debarun Mukherjee has successfully secured the QUAD fellowship amounting to USD 40,000. The Quad Fellowship is an initiative of the governments of Australia, India, Japan, and the United States. The Quad Fellowship sponsors exceptional master's and doctoral students to study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the United States.



- Initiation of academic exchange with University of Leeds

The representatives of Leeds visited PU on 29th July 2024 and held a seminar at the Dept of Political Science. This visit will herald new ideas of academic exchange between the two institutes in the future.

