



# Nirma University Newsletter



## Major Highlights



Launch of Global MBA Programme



MoU with University of Cincinnati



Students bring glory at the International and National level



Research and Innovation



Women Development Cell Activities



Alumni Association Meets



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# Message from Director General's Desk

Dear Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to present the latest edition of our university newsletter, capturing the highlights and achievements from the January to March 2025 quarter.

In a landmark development, the Institute of Management at Nirma University is set to launch a Global MBA programme from the academic year 2025-26, marking a significant stride in our global engagement strategy.

The university has entered into MoU with University of Cincinnati to forge partnership for academic and research collaboration. We have also established international collaborations with the University of California, Davis (UC Davis), Michigan State University (Eli Broad College of Business), and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

Our students continue to make us proud by excelling at prestigious national and international competitions such as the Singapore Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Challenge, Drone Development Challenge, and the Pune Design Festival, among others.

The university hosted numerous conferences, seminars, and workshops during this quarter, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and strengthening ties between academia and industry.

To commemorate International Women's Day, the Women Development Cell at the university organised a series of events during this quarter.



We also conducted a variety of extension and outreach activities aimed at fostering social responsibility and empathy among students. These included NSS residential camps, blood donation drives, education initiatives, and legal awareness programmes.

Strengthening our bond with the alumni community, the constituent institutes organised alumni meets that provided a vibrant platform for knowledge sharing, professional networking, and collaborative opportunities.

We deeply value the unwavering support of our stakeholders and well-wishers and look forward to your continued encouragement in our journey forward.

Thanking you.

**Anup K Singh, PhD**  
Director General



## Launch of Global MBA Programme

The Institute of Management is launching a Global MBA programme (GMBA) from the academic year 2025-26, which will be offered as a part of the Institute's collaboration with reputed US universities. The Institute of Management has established international collaborations with the University of California, Davis (UC Davis), Michigan State University (Eli Broad College of Business), and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).



## MoUs

### MoU with University of Cincinnati to Forge Partnership for Academic and Research Collaboration

Nirma University signed an MoU with University of Cincinnati on Jan 15, 2025 to establish academic and research collaborations between the two institutions. The University of Cincinnati reaffirmed its commitment to fostering joint research initiatives by both faculties and announced scholarships for students enrolled in Nirma University's dual-degree international programmes.



## Awards and Achievements

### Achievements at International Level

#### Singapore Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Challenge

Team Nirma AUV, Institute of Technology won second prize at the Singapore Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Challenge (SAUVC 2025) held at Singapore Polytechnic, Singapore, during March 14-17, 2025. Out of 89 registered teams, 45 teams from 13 countries qualified for the competition, and the top 18 teams advanced to the finale.



### Achievements at National Level

#### Drone Development Challenge 2025

Team Arrow SAE, Institute of Technology represented Nirma University at the Drone Development Challenge 2025, held in Chennai from March 28-30, 2025. After competing with 138 teams from IITs, NITs and other prestigious institutions across India, the team secured first place in the Regular Class category, and third place in the Micro Class category, winning a cash award of Rs 1,20,000.



## Rising Startup Idea Award

The students team comprising Aditi Gupta, Aabir Pramanik, Dhruvi Buvaria, and Hitvankshi Patel from the Institute of Pharmacy secured the Best Innovation Idea award in the 'Rising Startup Idea Award' category at Biothon 2025, hosted by Gujarat Biotechnology University on Jan 20, 2025. Their winning project introduces a pioneering approach to the metabolic engineering of microalgae, aiming to produce sustainable, high-value nutraceuticals and vegan proteins.



## Pune Design Festival 2025

Students from the Institute of Design won accolades in multiple categories, in the 'Battle of Projects 2025', a national-level design competition that attracted over 650 participants across eleven categories in the Pune Design Festival held on Feb 28 and March 1, 2025. The event organised by the Association of Designers of India (ADI), Pune Chapter, is one of India's most esteemed design events, bringing together thought leaders, industry experts, and emerging designers. The Institute of Design students' team was adjudged winner in Packaging Design Category, Film and Animation Design Category, and Sustainability Design Category.

## Financial Case Study Competition

Yashita Manghnani from the Institute of Management secured the first position in the 'Financial Case Study Competition' held at IIT Bhubaneswar on Jan 2, 2025. Her case study, 'Ditto Insurance Penetration in Rural Areas' was recognised for its innovative approach to expanding insurance access in underserved regions.



## Prativaad National Parliamentary Debate

Srinivas Iyer from the Institute of Law secured second position as the Novice Speaker of the tournament in the Prativaad National Parliamentary Debate 2025 organised by UPES, Dehradun on Jan 11-12, 2025.

## Model United Nations Competition

Alay Patwari from the Institute of Pharmacy secured the second place at GLS FOC MUN, a national-level Model United Nations competition held at GLS University on Feb 12, 2025. He demonstrated outstanding diplomacy, analytical skills, and the ability to engage in critical discussions on global issues.

# Students

## Best Negotiation Plan Award

Sukhpreet Kaur Sodhi and Deshna Agarwal from the Institute of Law received the 'Best Negotiation Plan Award' in the third edition of the NLUJ International Deal Negotiation Competition organised in partnership with A&O Shearman from Feb 28 to March 3, 2025 in Jodhpur.

## Natya Sangram

The Dramatics Club of the Institute of Management 'ChEhRe' secured third position at Natya Sangram 2025, a play competition organised by NMIMS Mumbai on Feb 22, 2025.



# Research and Innovation

## Patents Granted

Dr Shital Panchal and Dr Shital Butani from the Institute of Pharmacy have been granted a patent titled 'A Novel Formulation of Oryzanol and Drug Delivery System made up of Oryzanol' on Feb 12, 2025.

# Events and Activities

## Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars

### Nirma International Conference on Management (NICOM)

The 28<sup>th</sup> Nirma International Conference on Management (NICOM) was organised by the Institute of Management from Jan 8-10, 2025 bringing together distinguished academicians, industry professionals, and thought leaders to explore the theme, 'Business and



# Events and Activities

'Sustainability: Synergy for Creating the Future' The event was graced by Chief Guest Dr H Rao Unnava, Dean - UC Davis GSM, and Guest of Honour Dr Puneet Gupta, Board Member at UTI Pension. Nirma University was represented by Dr Karsanbhai K Patel, President; Shri K K Patel, Vice President; Dr Anup K Singh, Director General; and Dr Debasis Mallik, Director of the Institute of Management, among others. The ceremony witnessed the unveiling of 'Prasthavna', the Book of Abstracts, by the dignitaries, reflecting the academic contributions to NICOM 2025. The conference attracted 114 full paper submissions from Indian universities and 21 international submissions from countries including Australia, Canada, Germany, France, the UK, and the US. The inaugural session was followed by a couple of panel discussions.



## Accathon 2.0

Accathon 2.0, an interdisciplinary Accounting Hackathon, was organised by the Institute of Commerce, in collaboration with the Indian Accounting Association (IAA) and the Institute of Technology, Nirma University. This nationwide event aimed to provide a platform to undergraduate students to showcase their problem-solving skills in the fields of Accounting, GST, and Forensic Accounting. The competition was held in two rounds, with the first round conducted online on Jan 4, 2025 and the second round at Nirma University's campus on Jan 23-24, 2025. The event saw participation from 140 students across 13 states.

## Anvesh 2025: The Doctoral Conference

Anvesh 2025, the 20<sup>th</sup> Doctoral Conference in Management, provided a global platform for doctoral scholars to present research, engage in academic discussions, and participate in workshops. The inaugural session on Feb 28, 2025 featured Chief Guest Dr Ranjan



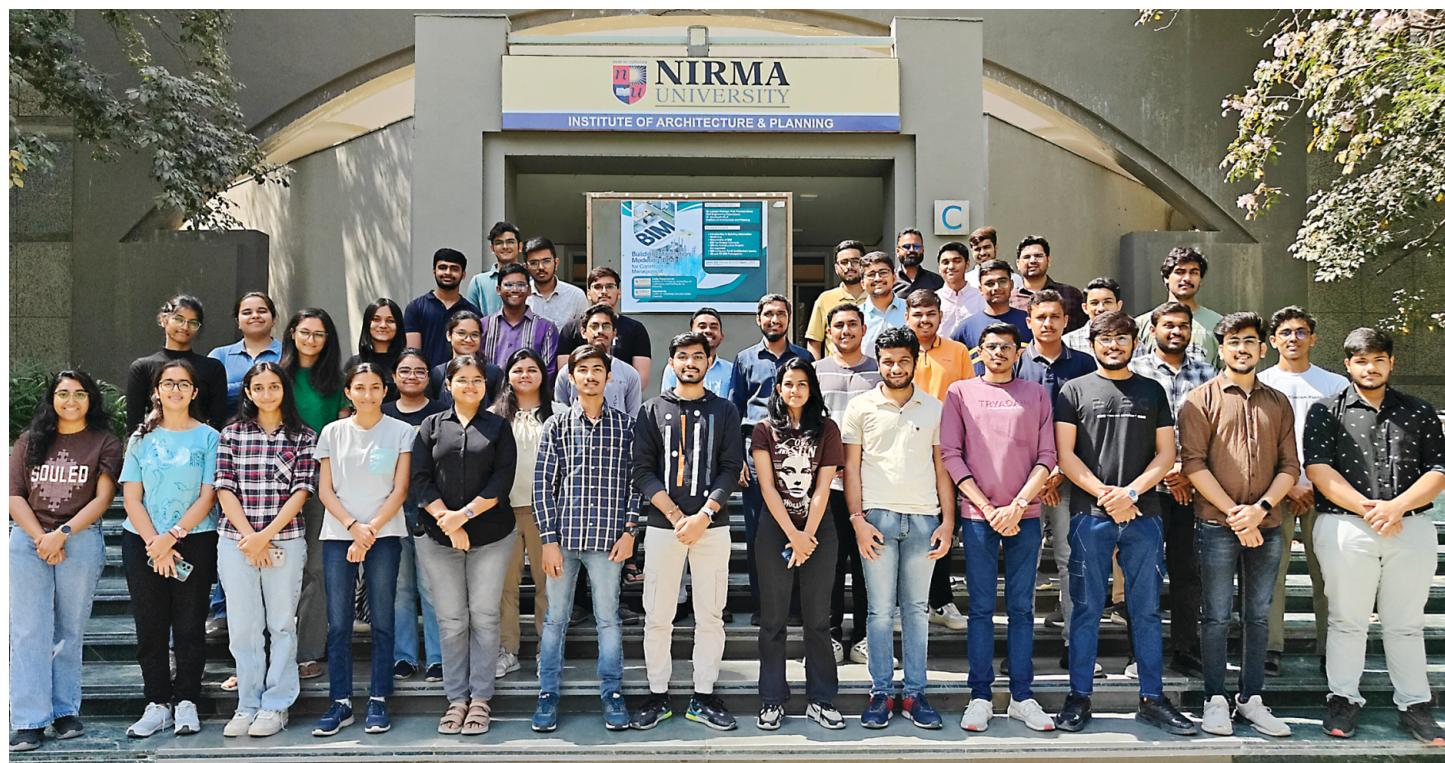
## Events and Activities

Banerjee, CEO and Professor, Nayanta Education Foundation, Pune, along with Dr P N Tekwani, Dean, Faculty of Doctoral Studies, and Dr Debasis Mallik, Director, Institute of Management, Nirma University. The conference attracted scholars from across India and four countries; the US, the UK, Norway, and Bangladesh, enhancing international academic collaboration. Over 70 presentations were featured, including abstracts, full papers, and a Best Paper Track presentation. Key sessions included Managing Creativity: Lessons from the Entertainment Industry by Prof Joris Ebbers, Luiss Business School; and Opportunities Beyond Academia Post-PhD by Dr Srikant Dahagam, CHRO, GoApptiv Pvt Ltd. The valedictory ceremony on March 1, 2025 featured Dr Arya Kumar, Senior Professor and Dean, Birla Institute of Management, Pilani as Guest of Honour.



### Workshop on Building Information Modelling for Construction Management

A workshop on 'Building Information Modelling (BIM) for Construction Management' was jointly organised by the Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology, and the Institute of Architecture and Planning under the auspices of the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), Nirma University on Feb 15 and 22, 2025. Fifty students from both institutes participated, gaining valuable insights into the applications of BIM for construction management. The workshop focused on hands-on sessions on software for BIM 3D, 4D and 5D.



### Seminar cum Workshop on eCTD Submission Requirements: Recent Global Regulatory Updates and Best Practices

The Institute of Pharmacy in collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a Seminar cum Workshop on 'eCTD Submission Requirements: Recent Global Regulatory Updates and Best Practices' on Feb 17, 2025. The event featured insightful sessions by Ms Anshu Rathore (Division Head - Pharma and Regulatory, Molkem Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad), and Ms Jinal Joshi (Sarjen Systems Pvt Ltd). A hands-on workshop session in the afternoon gave participants practical exposure to electronic submission processes, deepening their understanding of real-world regulatory workflows.

# Events and Activities

## Marketing Marathon

The Entrepreneurship Cell of Nirma University organised a Marketing Marathon on Jan 4, 2025, designed to test participants' creativity, pitching skills, and marketing expertise. The event saw enthusiastic participation from 20 teams, comprising over 100 participants. A workshop on Marketing Marathon was conducted by Mr Brahma Raval, an expert in marketing strategies and entrepreneur development, who shared valuable insights on marketing and pitching techniques. After the workshop, two competitive rounds were held where teams showcased their innovative approaches to pitching products in which the Institute of Design team stood first and the Institute of Management stood second.



## Workshop on Drug Evaluation Techniques

The Department of Pharmacology in collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a workshop on 'Drug Evaluation Techniques' on March 4, 2025. The workshop featured an expert talk by Dr Gyanendra Singh, Senior Scientist, ICMR-National Institute of Occupational Health.



## Workshop on Computer-Aided Drug Design

The Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry in collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a workshop on 'Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD)' on March 13, 2025. Dr Udit Chaube, Dr Tejas M Dhameliya, and Dr Vivek K Vyas from the Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University were the resource persons.



# Events and Activities

## Workshop on Digital Tools for Civil Engineering Applications

The Department of Civil Engineering organised a workshop on 'Digital Tools for Civil Engineering Applications' in hybrid mode under the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), Nirma University on Jan 4 and 18, 2025. The programme was conducted by Dr Swati Sirsant, Dr Manish Dutta, Dr Nitesh Gupta, Dr Prachi Kushwaha, and Dr Naman Kantesaria, Assistant Professors, Department of Civil Engineering, Nirma University.

## Celebration of Important Days

### Republic Day

Nirma University commemorated the 76<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India with a spectacular celebration on Jan 26, 2025. Chief Guest on this occasion was Mr Keshav Varma, a distinguished former Indian Administrative Service officer of the 1976 batch - Gujarat cadre, and a global urban development leader with extensive experience at the World Bank. The event saw active participation from university officials, heads of institutions, heads of departments, faculty and staff members, and students.



### Shaheed Diwas

NCC Unit at Nirma University, in collaboration with the Students' Welfare Board, organised a heartfelt commemoration of 'Shaheed Diwas' on March 25, 2025. The event featured an Open Mic event where NCC cadets performed various acts, including mono acting, poetry, storytelling, singing, and instrument playing, all centred around the theme of Shaheed Diwas.



## National Pharmacy Education Day

The Institute of Pharmacy celebrated Pharma Anveshan 2025 (National Pharmacy Education Day), as declared by the Pharmacy Council of India on March 6, 2025. This day is observed in honour of Prof M L Schroff, the Father of Pharmacy in India, whose vision and dedication laid the foundation for pharmaceutical education in the country. This year's theme, 'Entrepreneurship & Startups in Pharma and Pharmacy Practice: Encouraging Innovation, Incubation Centres, and Pharmaceutical Startups' focused on fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the pharmaceutical sector. The event drew enthusiastic participation from over 250 pharmacy professionals, faculty members, and staff, as well as distinguished industry leaders like Dr Sanjay Kumar Jain (Chief Quality Officer at Amneal Pharmaceuticals) and Dr Jaimin Vasa (President, Chairman, and Managing Director of Vasa Pharmachem Pvt Ltd).



# Events and Activities

## Expert Talks

- Dr Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor at Harvard University, and grandnephew of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, conducted an expert lecture on 'Contemporary India: Issues and Challenges' at the Institute of Management on Jan 7, 2025.



- Dr Stevan Chen and Dr Terrence F Graham from the USC Mann School of Pharmacy conducted expert sessions at the Institute of Pharmacy on Jan 7, 2025. Dr Chen spoke on 'Improving Population Health through Value-Based Clinical Pharmacy Services'. Dr Graham shared pathways to advanced pharmacy degrees and research opportunities in the United States.
- Prof Suresh K Bhargava, a renowned figure in the field of startup innovation and research conducted an expert talk on 'Best Practices in Startup Research and Innovation' hosted by the Entrepreneurship Cell in collaboration with the Computer Science and Engineering department, Nirma University on Jan 17, 2025.
- Dr Anjani Singh Tomar, Professor and Head, Centre for Criminal Justice, Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar shared insights on 'White Collar Crimes & Prevention of Corruption' at the Institute of Law on Jan 27, 2025.
- Mr Shivanshu Makkar, Associate VP, Retail Business, CARS24 conducted a session on 'The Journey of a Start-up' at the Institute of Management on Jan 29, 2025. The session covered key insights on entrepreneurship, business scaling, and future trends, emphasising execution, team strength, and the importance of data-driven decision-making for start-up success.
- Dr Nimisha Patel, Senior Medical Writer at CBCC Global Research, Ahmedabad conducted an expert lecture on 'FDA Meetings: Types and their impact on the regulatory drug approval process' at the Institute of Pharmacy on Jan 30, 2025.

- Mr Parvej Siraj, Vice President, Lupin delivered an expert talk on 'Everything is possible - Elements of unlocking our potential' at the Institute of Management on Feb 3, 2025.
- Mr V R Shah, Managing Director, Vinod Shah Consulting Engineering Pvt Ltd shared his insights on 'Architect-Engineer Collaboration' with the Institute of Architecture and Planning students on Feb 5, 2025.
- Mr Swapnil Ballal, Head (West Region), Mitcon Biopharma provided insights into 'Career opportunities in clinical research' for final-year BPharm students on Feb 6, 2025. He discussed career opportunities, essential skills like data analysis and regulatory compliance, and emerging industry trends, including technological advancements and personalised medicine.
- Dr Lajwanti Chatani, Professor in Political Theory, MS University of Baroda delivered an expert lecture on 'Gender and Law' at the Institute of Law on Feb 15, 2025.
- Ms Anusha Khurana, Commissioner, Income Tax delivered an expert session on 'How to Ace the Interview' at the Institute of Management on Feb 24, 2025.



- Ms Bhavana Patel, Clinical Pharmacist at Johns Hopkins HealthCare, Maryland, USA shared her expertise on 'Integrated Health for Brain-Gut Axis and Pharmacology of Biologics in Inflammatory Bowel Disease' at the Institute of Pharmacy on March 12, 2025.
- Dr Dhaval Pujara, Director, School of Technology, Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU), Gandhinagar delivered a talk on 'Recipe to become an effective researcher' at the Department of Electrical Engineering, Institute of Technology on March 19, 2025.
- Er Ramesh D Chauhan, ex-Additional General Manager (Simulator), NTPC Ltd, Gandhinagar delivered an expert talk on 'Operation and Maintenance of the Thermal Power Plant' to Electrical Engineering students, Institute of Technology on March 20, 2025.

# Events and Activities

## Women Development Cell Activities

### Cervical Cancer Awareness Session

In observance of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, the Institute of Science under the aegis of the Women Development Cell (WDC), Nirma University organised a Cervical Cancer Awareness Session on Jan 20, 2025. The session featured Dr Bijal M Patel, Professor and Head of the Gynecological Oncology Department, and Ms Priti Tank from the Community Oncology Department, Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad. Dr Bijal M Patel discussed critical topics, including the causes of cervical cancer, prevention strategies such as HPV vaccination, and the importance of regular screening for cervical and breast cancer.



### Self Defence Workshop

A Self Defence Workshop conducted by Mr Rushiraj Jaiswal, Rushiraj Karate Kungfu Federation, Ahmedabad was hosted by the Institute of Pharmacy on Jan 23, 2025. The workshop was organised as a part of the Women Development Cell (WDC) initiative aimed at promoting safety and empowering young women. The session focused on essential skills like situational awareness, assertiveness, and physical self-protection techniques. Through engaging demonstrations and hands-on session, participants learned how to recognise and respond effectively to potential threats.



# Events and Activities

## Walk for Her

The Institute of Architecture and Planning in association with the Women Development Cell (WDC), Nirma University, and the Ashirvad Foundation organised a 'Walk for Her' event on March 3, 2025 to raise cancer awareness. Participants embarked on a route across the university campus, starting from the Institute of Architecture and Planning and passing through key academic zones, symbolising solidarity with cancer patients and survivors. For every 5000 steps taken during the walk, the Ashirvad Foundation pledged to provide a free breast cancer check-up, encouraging participants to contribute directly to early detection efforts. Approximately 400 students, faculty, and staff from Nirma University participated in the event.



## Expert talk on Strategies for Gender-Inclusive Workplace

The Women Development Cell at the Institute of Management hosted an expert talk on 'Strategies for Gender-Inclusive Workplace' on March 27, 2025 featuring Ms Sneha Agarwal, Director, Hillock Hotel, Ahmedabad. Ms Agarwal shared insights on overcoming gender barriers, balancing career and family, and fostering inclusivity through small yet impactful actions. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A session, featuring enriching discussions on workplace equality.



# Events and Activities

## Cultural Events

### Elysian 7.0

Elysian 7.0, the flagship annual cultural fest of the Institute of Commerce took place from Jan 22-24, 2025 bringing together 714 students from 14 universities. The fest commenced with an inspiring address by Chief Guest Mr Lalit Jadhav, a financial consultant. The day featured events including treasure hunt, stock trading workshop, literary and academic competitions, ELYChef, a stand-up comedy, and a neon evening performance by Tarang. Day two continued the excitement with a candle-making workshop, FinTech session, theatre, music, and debate events. The evening's highlights included Mélange, the fashion show and the thrilling Battle of Bands. The final day showcased dance performances, photography, and storytelling, leading up to a spectacular cultural night. Artist Eve featured soulful performances by Piyush Mehroliya and high-energy beats by DJ Neil Creado of One Edge.



### Renaissance 2024-25

The Institute of Science held its annual cultural festival 'Renaissance' from Jan 16-18, 2025. Some of the events and competitions hosted during these three days include, rangoli making, face painting, sci-toon, funfair, literary events, singing competition, and dance competition, among others.



### Perspective Richter 10

Perspective Richter 10, the annual management and cultural fest of the Institute of Management, hosted from March 7-9, 2025 brought together over 2000 participants and an audience of 6000+. The fest featured 20 diverse management events, fostering strategic innovation and thought leadership. It also included cultural performances that blended music, poetry, comedy, and inspiring talks.



# Events and Activities

## NUZEAL: University Cultural Festival

NUZEAL, the annual inter-institute cultural fest of Nirma University was held from Feb 12 to 14, 2025. The Institute of Law under the aegis of the Students' Welfare Board hosted the event this year. Padma Shri Joravarsinh Danubhai Jadav, a renowned folklorist and a passionate proponent of Gujarat's folk arts was the Chief Guest. In addition, esteemed dignitaries from the Tribal Research Institute (TRI), the research body of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of Gujarat, also joined the celebrations, enriching the festival with their knowledge and insights. Over three days, the fest featured music events, dance competitions, literary contests, fine arts display, theatre performances, and a personality contest, offering participants a platform to showcase their talents across diverse artistic and intellectual domains.



## Kalp 2025: Annual fest of Institute of Architecture and Planning

The Institute of Architecture and Planning organised Kalp'25, the annual student festival from March 5-7, 2025. Curated entirely by students, the academic exhibition featured an extensive collection of architectural drawings, intricately crafted models, and innovative design explorations from over 400 students. A special highlight of the exhibition was a dedicated segment on the works of eminent architect S D Sharma, offering insights into his practice alongside modernist pioneers Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeannerette. The event also featured a host of talks and panel discussions led by experts, including Ar Sangeet Sharma from S D Sharma and Associates, Ar Snehal Suthar and Ar Bhadri Suthar from Grid Architects, and Ar Bhairavi Dhoot and Ar Ujjaval Parekh from Reasoning Instincts Architecture Studio (RIAS). The fest further included sports events, cultural events, an open mic event, and four engaging workshops on cyanotype printing, block printing, terrarium making, and candle making.



# Events and Activities

## Scintilla 2025

Scintilla, Electrical Engineering Students' Association's (EESA) flagship event was organised on March 29-30, 2025 on the theme 'Innoverse - Exploring Electrical and Beyond.' Scintilla '25 featured an array of technical and non-technical events, attracting over 500 participants from various colleges. From electrifying robotics competitions to thought-provoking debates on the ethical implications of emerging technologies, Scintilla '25 encapsulated the multifaceted essence of the modern engineering landscape. On this occasion, Mr Kayan Kalthia, Director- Kosol Energie was the Chief Guest, Mr Sanjeev Mehta, SER- Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) was the Guest of Honour, and Shri Kalpesh Kalthia, Chairman and Managing Director- Kosol Energie was the special guest.

## Other Events and Activities

### Nirma Cup 2025: Inter-University Sports Tournament

Nirma Cup 2025, an inter-university volleyball and cricket tournament was organised by the Institute of Commerce and Students' Welfare Board, Nirma University from March 3-7, 2025. The tournament attracted 120 participants in volleyball and 105 participants in cricket, with 10 universities participating in these respective sports. Mr Kirat Damani, former National Cricketer, and Shri Vishal Saxena, Additional Collector of Gujarat, graced the event as chief guests.



## SPIC MACAY

Nirma University hosted a SPIC MACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) event on Feb 13, 2025. Renowned Flute Sisters - Debopriya and Suchismita Chatterjee, accompanied by Mr Sapan Anjaria on Tabla, performed at the event.



### Training programme on Mastering AI Tools

The Chemical Engineering Department in collaboration with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a training programme on 'Mastering AI Tools, Canva and Essential Skills for Professional Growth' by Dr Nikita Chokshi, Institute of Technology on March 1, 2025.



## Events and Activities

### NirmaQuest 2025: A state-level quiz competition

The Institute of Pharmacy organised NirmaQuest 2025, a state-level quiz competition for students from Pharmacy and other disciplines on Feb 1, 2025. A total of 46 teams competed through multiple challenging rounds, from the preliminary stage to the semi-finals, culminating in a thrilling grand finale. The competition concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, where the top three teams were awarded certificates and cash prizes, totalling Rs 44,000. Dr Nagesh Nanda, Director of Novel Consultants was the Chief Guest during the prize distribution ceremony.



### Walkathon

Nirma University organised a 5 km walkathon, 'Walk 4 Fitness' on Feb 15, 2025 at the Riverfront, Ahmedabad. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from university officials, HOs, HoDs, Section heads, faculty and staff members, and students, all coming together to promote a healthy lifestyle and raising awareness about fitness in society.



# Events and Activities

## One Act Play Competition

The Institute of Science, in collaboration with the Students' Welfare Board, organised a One Act Play Competition on the theme 'Swachhta Hi Seva' on Feb 7, 2025. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students across various disciplines, who captivated the audience with thought-provoking and engaging performances. The Institute of Pharmacy emerged as the winner, while the Institute of Architecture and Planning was declared the runner-up.



## Photography and Short Film Competition

The Inter-Institute Photography and Short Film Competition, organised by the Institute of Architecture and Planning, under the aegis of the Students' Welfare Board, Nirma University, commenced on Feb 5, 2025. The results and exhibition were held on Feb 28, 2025. For short films, Rushi Maisuria from the Institute of Architecture and Planning stood first, and Shreem from the Institute of Design secured the second position. In Photography, Vastal Dagli from the Institute of Technology stood first, and Rutvi Pirojiya from the Institute of Pharmacy secured second position. The Jury's Special Award for photography was presented to Shagun Kankani from the Institute of Law, and Jayni Khimasia from the Institute of Technology.

## MDP on Entrepreneurial Insights

The Institute of Management conducted a Management Development Programme (MDP) titled 'Entrepreneurial Insights - Carving the Future Pathway' for HPCL from March 3-5, 2025. Led by Prof Hardik Shah, the programme engaged 30 participants, equipping them with entrepreneurial strategies to navigate the evolving business landscape.



## Anurakt 2025: Inter-University Battle of the Bands

Numaish, the official music band of Nirma University, hosted Anurakt 2025, an Inter-University Battle of Bands on March 29, 2025. The event brought together talented musical bands from various institutions, all competing for the coveted title of the best band.



# Events and Activities

## Field Visits

### Haflong Field Studio, Assam

The Institute of Architecture and Planning conducted a field studio at Haflong, Assam from Dec 18, 2024 to Jan 3, 2025. It involved a detailed study of the draft Master Plan and Zoning Regulation for Haflong town. Students critically analysed the land-use zoning and transportation proposals outlined in the master plan, using maps and planning documents to assess existing conditions and propose enhancements. Students engaged with the physical and social fabric of their respective study areas, observing urban patterns, identifying challenges, and formulating interventions that addressed both immediate and long-term urban needs. Following the study done in the Haflong field studio, the team presented their work at the Directorate of Town & Country Planning in Guwahati, where it was highly appreciated.



### Industrial Visit to Balaji Wafers

An industrial visit for second-year BCom (Hons.) students was organised on Feb 17, 2025 to provide them with practical exposure to business operations and manufacturing processes. A total of 97 students, accompanied by faculty members visited the Balaji Wafers manufacturing



facility in Rajkot. The visit began with a guided tour of the manufacturing plant, where students observed the step-by-step production of potato chips. Advanced automation, including robotic hands and ASAR technology for warehouse storage. A significant highlight of the visit was an inspiring session by Mr Chandubhai Virani, Managing Director of Balaji Wafers. The interactive Q&A session covered topics such as brand expansion, IPOs, and sustainability initiatives.

## Extension Activities

### NSS Residential Camps

The NSS Unit of the Institute of Commerce conducted a 7-Day Residential Camp at Naj village from Jan 5-11, 2025 reinforcing the commitment for community development and experiential learning. A total of 48 students participated in the camp, engaging in various activities aimed at social impact and successfully organised a clothes distribution drive, cleanliness drive, tree plantation drive, workshops for school students on art and craft, MS Paint, and phonetics, financial and digital literacy sessions for villagers on fraud prevention, financial management, and investment safety. Special activities for Divyang school students were carried out, promoting inclusivity, self-care, and teamwork. Other events conducted included street play on consumer rights, a tobacco awareness rally, sports competition.



# Extension Activities

The Institute of Design conducted its 7-day NSS Camp at Paliyad village, Gujarat, from Feb 10-15, 2025. The camp provided a valuable opportunity for students to engage in community service and creative activities. It aimed to foster teamwork, self-discipline, and social responsibility among participants. Some of the activities conducted during this period include Origami workshop, DIY Kit workshops, Wall Painting & School Beautification, Clay workshop, Shramdaan at Gaushala, Yoga, Drawing competition, Knowledge sharing sessions, Sports activities, and Cleanliness drive.

The NSS Unit of the Institute of Law organised a 7-Day Residential Camp at Rampura from March 1 to 7, 2025. The concluding event organised at the camp was graced by Dr Adam Dubin, a faculty member from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas.

## Education Drive at Ambaliyara Village

The Institute of Management organised an Education Drive at Ambaliyara village on Jan 24, 2025 focusing on interactive math and geography activities, followed by games, cultural performances, and distribution of sweets, engaging close to 100 village children.



## Visit to Gokul Ashram Shala

The Centre for Child Rights Advocacy (CCRA), Institute of Law, Nirma University organised a community outreach visit to Gokul Ashram Shala on March 26, 2025. The programme aimed to promote child safety, hygiene, nutrition, and educational awareness while fostering creativity and engagement among children.

## Legal Awareness Programme

The Institute of Law along with the Gujarat State Legal Services Authority held a legal awareness programme on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act at Jammiyatpura Prathmik School on Jan 30, 2025.

## Blood Donation Drive

The NSS Unit of School of Technology, Nirma University, in collaboration with ISA, CHESA, NCC, and Prathama Blood Donation Centre conducted a Blood Donation drive on Feb 4, 2025. The drive saw enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff, resulting in the collection of 304 units of blood.



## Field visit to Jammiyatpura Village

The Legal Aid Clinic at the Institute of Law organised a field visit to Jammiyatpura village as part of its outreach programme on Jan 7, 2025. The objective of the visit was to raise awareness about women's and children's rights, facilitate Aadhar card registration, and engage with the community to address their legal concerns.

## Faculty

## Awards and Achievements

Dr Samik Shome, Professor, Institute of Management has been conferred the AIMS-IBA Outstanding Management Researcher Award for his significant contributions to the field of management research during the 22<sup>nd</sup> AIMS Conference (Association of Indian Management Scholars) held from Jan 2-4, 2025 at IIM Kozhikode.



Dr Aarthi Sundararajan from the Institute of Science received recognition for her contributions to Science and Immunology from the Indian Immunology Society in Feb 2025.

This recognition is in observance of February 11<sup>th</sup> as the 'International Day of Women and Girls in Science'.



## Alumni Association Meets

### Alumni Association Meet of Institute of Pharmacy

The Institute of Pharmacy Nirma University Alumni Association (IPNUAA) hosted its Annual Alumni Meet on Jan 26, 2025 at the campus. Over 100+ alumni attended the event. In a heartfelt gesture, the NSS student volunteers organised a Health Check-up camp for the alumni, offering screenings for BMI, Blood Pressure, and Glucose levels. The formal gathering commenced with Dr Dhaivat Parikh (Vice President - IPNUAA), who highlighted the numerous initiatives of the Alumni Association, lauding the alumni for their invaluable contributions. Dr Gopal Natesan (Director - Institute of Pharmacy, and President - IPNUAA) shared his vision for the future of the institute, emphasising the importance of strengthening Industry-Institute collaborations. He also presented a comprehensive overview of the institute's annual progress and notable achievements.



### Alumni Association Meet of Institute of Science

The Alumni Association of the Institute of Science organised its annual Alumni Meet on Jan 18, 2025 bringing together alumni, former faculty members, current batch of students, faculty, and staff members.

### Silver Jubilee Reunion of First Engineering Batch

The Nirma Institute of Technology Alumni Association (NITAA) celebrated the Silver Jubilee reunion of the first Bachelor of Engineering batch (1995-1999) at its campus on Jan 4, 2025. The event saw enthusiastic participation from alumni members of the inaugural batch, along with their spouse and children. The celebration provided a heart-warming opportunity to reminisce, reconnect, and celebrate the cherished memories of the alma mater. Dr H V Trivedi, the first Director of the Institute of Technology, Nirma University, addressed the gathering and shared his insights. Dr R N Patel, President of NITAA and the current Director, SoE, Institute of Technology, outlined the current and future activities of the association. Faculty members who had worked earlier at the institute also attended the event.



### Bangalore Chapter Meet of Institute of Management

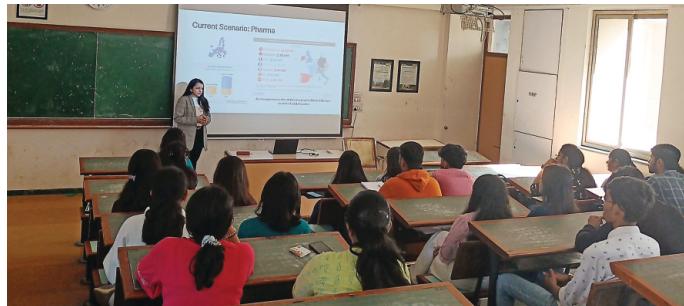
The Institute of Management hosted the Bangalore Alumni City Meet on March 1, 2025, uniting 125 alumni from the 1996-98 batch to recent graduates. The alumni were joined by Prof Ashwini Awasthi, Prof Parag Rizwani, and Dr Neeraj Arora from the Institute of Management. The event fostered enriching discussions, nostalgia, and professional networking. Strengthening alumni ties, the gathering reaffirmed the institute's lasting impact and set the stage for future reunions.



# Alumni

## Alumni on Campus

- Ms Disha Pandya, an alumna of the Institute of Pharmacy, currently serving as a Senior Manager-Technical Sales and Marketing, Bitop AG, Germany conducted a session on 'The European Cosmetics and Pharma Industry: Current Scenario, Regulatory Compliance, and Future Prospects' on Jan 7, 2025.



- Mr Saumil Upadhyay, an alumnus of the Institute of Architecture and Planning shared his experiential journey from being a student to now working at VTPro Design as a designer on Jan 15, 2025.
- Ms Shraddha Patel, an alumna of the Institute of Pharmacy, currently working as a freelancer-consultant at Upwork Enterprise, United Kingdom conducted a session on 'Lifecycle Management Strategies for New Drugs: Focusing on Regulatory Compliance' on Jan 23, 2025.
- Ar Tanvi Karia, an alumna of the Institute of Architecture and Planning, and an architect, historian, and curator who serves as the Assistant Director at the Charles Correa Foundation gave a talk on 'Unarchiving the Archives' on Jan 24, 2025. She shared her expertise on framing research questions,



utilising archival resources, and understanding the critical role archives play in shaping academic and professional research.

- Mr Ronak Pathak, an alumnus of the Institute of Pharmacy, currently working as a Senior Principal Scientist at Neovant Therapeutics Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad delivered an insightful session on 'Delayed Release Drug Delivery System: Formulation Development and Industry Perspectives' on Feb 3, 2025.

- Mr Rahil Jani, an alumnus of the Institute of Pharmacy, currently working as a Pharmacist, Shoppers Drug Mart, Ontario, Canada provided insights into the pharmacy profession in Canada, highlighting the distinct roles of hospital pharmacists, community pharmacists, and clinical pharmacists on Feb 3, 2025.
- Mr Prashil Panchal, an alumnus of the Institute of Pharmacy, currently working as a Regulatory Affairs Specialist at Boston Scientific, USA delivered a session on 'Global Regulatory Landscape' covering key regulatory pathways for FDA (USA), Health Canada (Canada), the European Union (EU), and TGA (Australia) on Feb 4, 2025.



- Mr Jaydip Khuman, an alumnus of the Institute of Science, and currently working as a Workflow Specialist (BioPharma) at Spinco Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad delivered a lecture on 'Placements: Basic knowledge of job profile and associated



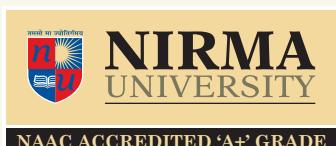
responsibilities' on Feb 15, 2025.

- Dr Piyush Gediya, an alumnus of the Institute of Pharmacy, and Senior Research Scientist at Atlas Life Sciences Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad delivered an online session on 'Optimising TLC Conditions for Effective Reaction Monitoring in Chemical Synthesis' on March 20, 2025.
- Mr Rupak Jain, an alumnus of the Institute of Pharmacy, and Head, F&D, Nestor Pharmaceuticals, Goa delivered an online session on 'Bridging the Gap: Empowering Fresh Graduates to Meet and Exceed Industry Expectations' on March 28, 2025.



## Editorial Board

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For correspondence email to: [nu.newsletter@nirmauni.ac.in](mailto:nu.newsletter@nirmauni.ac.in)

Nirma University  
Sarkhej-Gandhinagar Highway  
Ahmedabad 382 481  
Gujarat, India

Tel: +91-79-71652000, +91-2717-241900-04, +91-2717-241911-15

