



Annual Newsletter

Vol 4, October 2015

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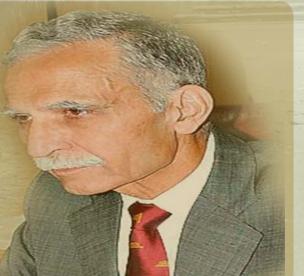
Over **70** AMU students have been successfully placed so far at prestigious universities under the SSESAs program.

"Call me by whatever names you like. I will not ask you for my salvation. But please take pity of your children. Do something for them, lest you should have to repent"

-Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

"AMU must thank you (SSESAs) for this effort"

-Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Zameer Uddin Shah
Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University



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Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award

Sir Syed Education Society of North America

Chairman's Message

Over a decade ago, **Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award (SSESAs)** was instituted to help AMU students and alumni with their aspiration of achieving higher education (PhD/MS programs) in the USA. **Sir Syed Education Society of North America** administers two annual scholastic programs: (i) the **Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award (SSESAs)**, which helps AMU students and alumni with their graduate school admissions, and (ii) the **International Summer Research Award (ISRA)**, which is focused on providing AMU students with short-term summer internship opportunities in the US.

As part of the SSESAs program, scholars are provided with personalized mentorship and financial assistance towards GRE/GMAT/TOEFL tests, GRE/GMAT preparation program, and application fees paid for upto five schools. SSESAs team helps students with their standardized tests preparation, resumes and graduate school essays, as well as selection of universities. SSESAs is open to all AMU students and alumni irrespective of their area of study; scholars are selected after a rigorous selection process: (i). US based evaluators first screen applications based upon their merit, akin to US graduate program selection process and about top 20% applicants are invited for GRE-styled test and personalized interview at AMU, (ii). Finally, 18-19 students are selected for the SSESAs award, strictly based upon their overall performance. SSESAs program is a volunteer-driven program; subject experts from different areas of specialization mentor and guide scholars, in getting admit(s) in different prestigious graduate programs. So far, SSESAs team has successfully placed over **70 AMU students** at various prestigious universities around the world, including the United States.

In 2013, **Sir Syed Education Society of North America** and **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide summer research opportunities for AMU students in the US. Under the MoU, a new program was instituted, the "**International Summer Research Award (ISRA; www.ssesas.us/isra.php)**", under which AMU students will work at major US research universities for fully funded 2-3 months internship. ISRA program serves as a feeder program to the SSESAs program. Students come to US for summer research internship and get firsthand research exposure at US schools as well as opportunities to make useful contacts with the US academicians. Such experiences help AMU students not only in getting research experience but also with their graduate school applications for MS/Ph.D programs. In last two summers, SSESAs team has selected 3 AMU students for summer internships in the US schools and they were fully funded.

Sir Syed Education Society of North America is thankful to the Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University **Lt. Gen.Zameeruddin Shah (Retd)** for extending much-needed help in conducting SSESAs/ISRA program screenings at AMU.

On behalf of SSESAs team, I would also like to thank our supporters who have provided funding and mentorship to students.

-Mohsin Raza Khan
Baltimore, MD



Who we are...

The Sir Syed Education Society of North America, a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization, annually administers the Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award (SSESA) and the International Summer Research Award (ISRA). SSESA is offered to students and alumni of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) from all faculties, including sciences, life sciences, medicine, arts, business, commerce, law, social sciences, and education. ISRA program, in collaboration with the United States Universities, offers fully funded summer research opportunities to AMU students from science and life science faculties.

How we work...



Selection of Scholars

SSESA Scholars are selected based on academic excellence and performance in GRE-styled test and personal interview

Mentoring

A committed team of volunteers mentor students and work with them for upto 2 years till they are successful in getting admission in a prestigious Masters/PhD program



Paying application fees

SSESA covers the registration fees for GRE, GMAT, TOEFL and application fees for upto five universities.



And the network grows...

Upon arrival in US, the students in turn become mentor to other incoming students



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Recent Successfully Placed Students

- ◊ **Mr. Quamar Niyaz (2013)**, Ph.D Program Computer Sciences, University of Toledo, OH, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Mohammad Anas Anis (2013)**, MS Program, University of Cincinnati, OH, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Mohammad Sarim (2013)**, Ph.D Program, University of Toledo, OH, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. M. Sameer Khan (2013)**, MS Power Electronics at North Carolina State University, NC, USA
- ◊ **Mr. Mohd. Tabish Siddiqui (2014)**, MS Electrical and Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Ali Muzaffar (2014)**, MS Engineering Management at the University of California Irvine, CA and MS Electrical Engg at University of Minnesota, Duluth, MN, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Haris Shamsi (2014)**, MS program at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Karlsruhe, Germany and the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK.
- ◊ **Mr. Atif Zafar (2014)**, Ph.D program at the Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA
- ◊ **Mr. Farid Haq (2014)**, Ph.D Computer Science program at the State University of New York (SUNY), NY, USA and the University of Toledo, OH, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Kushagra Kumar (2014)**, MS Industrial Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA
- ◊ **Mr. Salman Bin Kashif (2014)**, MSc (Chemical Engineering) program at Universiti Teknologi Petronas, Malaysia.
- ◊ **Mr. Qambar Hasan Rizvi (2014)**, Ph.D program at the Satellite Stem Cell Research Lab of School of Biotechnology, Yeungnam University, South Korea.
- ◊ **Mr. Mohsin Jahan Qazi (2015)**, Ph.D program at the Tampere University of Technology, Finland and the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- ◊ **Ms. Safia Rahmat (2015)**, MS program at the University of Toledo, OH, USA and University of Maryland (Baltimore County), MD, USA
- ◊ **Mr. Mudassir Yatoo (2015)**, Ph.D program at the Imperial College, London, UK
- ◊ **Mr. Shujaut H. Badr (2015)**, MS Mechanical Engineering program at The University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA
- ◊ **Mr. M. Zulqaranain (2015)**, Ph.D program, Boise State University, ID, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Mohd Zubair (2015)**, Ph.D program in Biological Sciences, the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR, USA and the Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Wasikul Islam (2015)**, Ph.D program in Physics, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL, USA and University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), Baltimore, MD, USA and Oklahoma State University, OK, USA.
- ◊ **Ms. Farhat Parveen (2015)**, MS program in Electronics, offered by the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), Baltimore, MD, USA, University of Toledo, OH, USA, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), NJ, USA, and University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), TX, USA.
- ◊ **Mr. Prakhar Gupta (2015)**, MS program in Civil and Environmental Engineering, the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC), IL, USA.
- ◊ **Ms. Mariam Siddiqui (2015)**, MS program in Electrical Engineering, the New York University, New York, NY, USA.
- ◊ **Ms. Sabiha Khatoon (2015)**, Newton-Bhabha Ph.D program, the Aberystwyth University, Ceredigion, UK.



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SSESA Highlights



Hon. Vice Chancellor Lt. General Zameeruddin Shah signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SSESA, to facilitate summer internship opportunities for AMU students in USA

(June 23rd, 2013, Houston, TX)



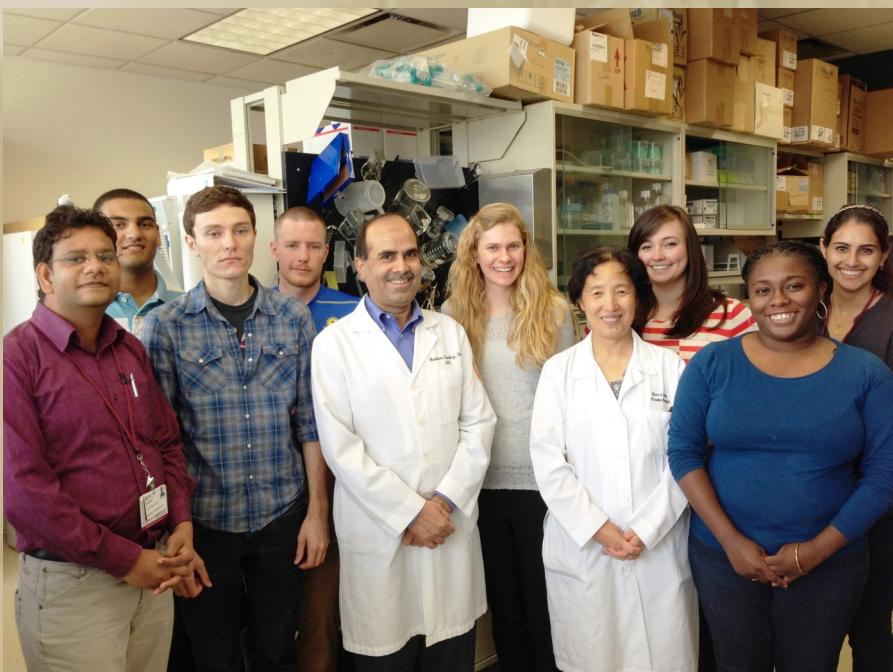
Mr. Hasan Kamal, Ex-President (FAAA) and SSESA supporter, shedding light on SSESA's contributions in helping AMU students with their goals of achieving higher education at North American Universities during an educational session at the XIIIth Annual Convention of FAAA (Chicago, IL). The panelists include (L-R): Dr. Shaheer Khan (AEEF Executive), Mr. Mohsin Khan (SSESA chair), Ms. Beenish Zia (SSESA scholar 2009), and Prof. Syed Hashsham (Professor, Michigan State University)

(June 2014, Chicago, IL)

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER RESEARCH AWARD (ISRA)

ISRA provides students an opportunity to work for two-three months in the academic environment of prestigious universities of United States of America (USA). This program aims to give the recipient a short exposure to the cutting-edge research environment and work culture of United States. Unlike Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award which helps the students in applying for different universities in USA through significant financial assistance coupled with thorough mentoring, ISRA provides a short term practical experience; helping the aspirants getting familiarized with research milieu of USA and thereby boosting their application.

ISRA 2014



Mr. Sabahuddin Ahmad did his summer internship at Loyola University Medical School, Maywood, USA (June, 2014)



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ISRA is an excellent initiative from non-profit organisation, Sir Syed Education Society of North America. Being the first recipient of International Summer Research Award (ISRA), I feel privileged to write about my research experience at Loyola University Medical School, Maywood, USA and my stay in USA. ISRA is an excellent opportunity for young graduates, who wish to work for two-three months in the academic environment of prestigious universities of United States of America (USA).

I worked in research group, led by Prof. Mashkoor A. Choudhry (an AMU Alumnus); his group works on analysis of the GUT immunity post burn and Alcohol exposure, with primary focus on the GUT region.

I found Chicago a good place to explore. I spent 'independence eve' at Downtown of Chicago, near Navy Piers. Fireworks on the lake side were colourful and pleasant, especially on July 4th. I found that the members of SSES family and other AMU alumnus living in USA are very cooperative.

-Sabahuddin Ahmad (ISRA Scholar-2014, Loyola Medical School, Chicago, IL, USA)

Being a SSES awardee and a proud member of the family, I feel very much privileged. SSES not only made me dream big but also helped me to attain success. I am really amazed to observe the working style of this family and the extent to which they cooperate with the students.

The struggles of these seniors from the Aligarh fraternity were a great source of inspiration to me and as a result of this motivation, I was able to make a successful attempt in securing an internship at European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Geneva, Switzerland which, I believe, is the best thing to have happened to me so far. CERN is not only the world's largest Physics laboratory but also one of the most prestigious research institutes of the world.

Had I not got the SSES award, I probably wouldn't have got the motivation to apply there (in CERN) too. So, all credit goes to SSES, which changed my perceptions, dreams and motivations of life.

-Wasikul Islam (SSES Scholar-2014, Ph.D program at Oklahoma State University, OK, USA)



SSESA scholars have been on the rolls of prominent universities which include...



SSESA OUTREACH



Dr. Saif Sheikh interacted with the students of AMU and apprised them with the opportunities of higher education in USA.

(University Administrative Block, October 2014)



Mr. Mudasir Ahmad Yatoo delivered a talk on the opportunities abroad, required test scores and application process.

(Department of Chemistry, September 2015)



Mr. S.K. Abdus Sayeed completed his summer internship at University of Houston(Main Campus), Houston, USA (Summer



Mr. M.R. Wani completed his summer internship at University of Alabama, USA (Summer '15)



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SSESA Awardees 2015-16

- ◊ Abhay Mittal (Computer Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Abhishek Royal (Medicine), AMU
- ◊ Afzal Shadab (Mechanical Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Ajaharul Islam (Physics), AMU
- ◊ Ayesha Bee (Physics), AMU
- ◊ Faiz Alam (Electronics Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Farooq Jafri (Geology), AMU
- ◊ Kashif (Mechanical Engineering), AMU
- ◊ M Zulqarnain (Electronics Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Mehroosh (Physics), AMU
- ◊ Mohd Faraz (Mechanical Engineering), AMU
- ◊ MR Wani (Zoology), AMU
- ◊ Rajat Kant Goel (Computer Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Sajid Khan (Social Work)
- ◊ Subia Akram (Biotechnology), AMU
- ◊ Tabia Ahmad (Electrical Engineering), AMU
- ◊ Tajuddin Khan (Economics), AMU

Business Standard

Now AMU students to do summer internships in US

IANS | Aligarh August 03, 2013 Last Updated at 21:54 IST

Up to five students of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) will do summer internships at prestigious US institutions like Harvard with the varsity signing a MoU with the Sir Syed Education Society of North America (SSEA), a statement said Saturday.

The MoU was signed by AMU Vice Chancellor Gen. (retd) Zamir Uddin Shah, during his visit to the

Want to do your bit?

Donate Now



Have a query?

Please fill the
A team member will contact you.

Past SSESA awardees Ms. Nida Rehmani and Mr. Asim Rizvi were selected for the prestigious STEM-ER program (2014)

"I have been associated with SSESA for the past few years, primarily as a volunteer to help them (students) prepare their GRE and TOEFL examinations and also serve in the interview committee in Aligarh. I find SSESA to be very unusual program and also a very successful program with many graduate students successfully placed in good graduate programs in US. My view of this is that they are so successful because they choose students entirely on the merit. In the many years that I have been associated with SSESA, I cannot think of one instance where any member of SSESA executive ever approached us to push for any candidate. The program is run entirely on merit and it is very transparent as far as the selection goes. And this shows in the quality of the students they put forward, they provide them mentorship and get them placed in good graduate schools."



SSESA is also a program, which I think runs a little differently because every two years, I believe, or may be every three years new people are brought in to run the program. This is also important because it keeps the program young, it brings new blood, new ideas, new thinking, and it provides the intellectual driving force that any good program needs.

At the end of the day, it's really your dollars that will help some of your young Alig friends to achieve their dreams just like you and I did when we were young".

-Dr. Shahid Jameel (CEO at The Wellcome Trust / DBT India Alliance)

"The SSESA program has helped me immensely. I was coming from India to US and did not know anything about US but I was not alone. They (SSESA members) helped me out over the phone, through email and fortunately they were living close by, about 100 miles, and therefore paid me a visit. So it's a brilliant program and beneficial for students. Thank you so much"

-Abdul Haleem Kidwai (SSESA Scholar-2012, MA Program, UMA, Massachusetts)

"I was awarded SSESA during the third year of the undergraduate program and I had applied to eight universities of which I got admits from four. They (SSESA members) helped me to write my resume, to edit my SOP apart from helping financially. Most importantly, they kept me motivated throughout the application process".

-Ali Muzaffar (SSESA Scholar-2013, Consultant at Deloitte, California, USA)



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Meet SSESA Team

Executive Committee



Mr. Mohsin Khan
Baltimore, MD
(Chairman)



Dr. Saif Sheikh
Chicago, Illinois



Dr. Rehan Baqri
Boston, Massachusetts



Mr. Ali Rizvi
Boston, Massachusetts

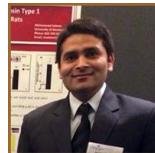


Dr. Shaida Andrabu
Kashmir, India

Operational Team



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California, USA
Fundraising Coordinator



Mohd Saleem
Houston, USA
Scholarship Coordinator



Mudasir Ahmad Yatoo
Sendai, Japan
Communications Coordinator



Musfira Jilani
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Sir Syed Emerging Scholar Award

Sir Syed Education Society of North America

237 Worthen Road East, Lexington, MA 02421, USA

E-mail: ssesa.apply@gmail.com

Website: www.ssesa.us

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