

Honourable Principal of M.K. DAV Public School, Daltonganj Joins Global Dialogue on Careers and Student Well-being at IC³ 2026

The 10th Annual IC³ Conference & Expo, held on 19th and 20th August, 2026 at the Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai, brought together a distinguished International community of school leaders, counsellors, University representatives and education policy makers. Commemorating a decade of the IC³ Movement, the conference centred on the theme “Looking Deeply – From Information to Insight”, placing career guidance and student well-being within the broader context of an increasingly complex educational world. The gathering drew thousands of delegates from more than 100 countries and featured keynote addresses, expert conversations, experiential workshops and an extensive exhibition. The presence of eminent personalities, including Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, added further distinction to the occasion. An interaction with Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, Controller of Examinations, CBSE, was among the notable engagements.

The Honourable Principal, MRS. INDRANI CHATTERJEE, attended the prestigious gathering as a High School Delegate, where she shared her experience and educational insights while engaging in an enriching exchange on contemporary counselling practices and the evolving needs of young learners. The conference was also attended by delegates of leading Universities from Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Europe, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Scotland and the UK. These University delegates offered first-hand information about the functioning of their institutions, admission procedures and the academic as well as career opportunities available to International students. Such interactions gave career counselling a global context, acquainting educators with lesser-explored higher-education options and enabling students to look beyond familiar choices.

The conference featured sessions led by distinguished academics and experienced career counsellors from India and abroad. Jim McLaughlin, Assistant Vice -President, IC3 Institute, UK, Dr. Jill Blondin, Vice- Chancellor for Global Affairs, University of Colorado Boulder and President-Elect of AIEA, USA, Dr. Simon Mak, Founding Vice- Chancellor, Universal AI University, India and Dr.

Nigamanth Sridhar, Executive Vice-President and Provost, Cleveland State University, USA and Dr. Indu Shahani, Founding President and Chancellor, ATLAS SkillTech University, India brought international higher-education perspectives to the discussions. Indian counsellors *Anjali Narang, Senior Career Counsellor, The Shri Ram School, Dr. Rashi Ahuja Dixit, Senior Career and College Counsellor, City Montessori School, Mahanagar, Rashi Thakur, Career and College Counsellor, Vasant Valley School and Sutapa Dayal, Career Counsellor, JBCN International School further enriched the sessions with their experience in school-based career guidance.

The Honourable Principal participated in a series of engaging sessions that examined the many facets of students' growth and aspirations. "Career Choices with Clarity: The SEL Foundation" examined how social-emotional learning can inform career exploration while "From Classrooms to Careers: Future Ready" considered the competencies students will require as education and employment continue to evolve. "Looking Beyond Profiles: Understanding Student Aspirations in India" drew attention to the need to look beyond grades and credentials when interpreting the ambitions of Indian adolescents. "Small Countries, Big Opportunities: Rethinking Study Destinations" invited educators to reconsider the range of International destinations available to students whereas "Future Pathways to Intuition and Imagination" explored the place of creativity and human insight in shaping tomorrow's careers.

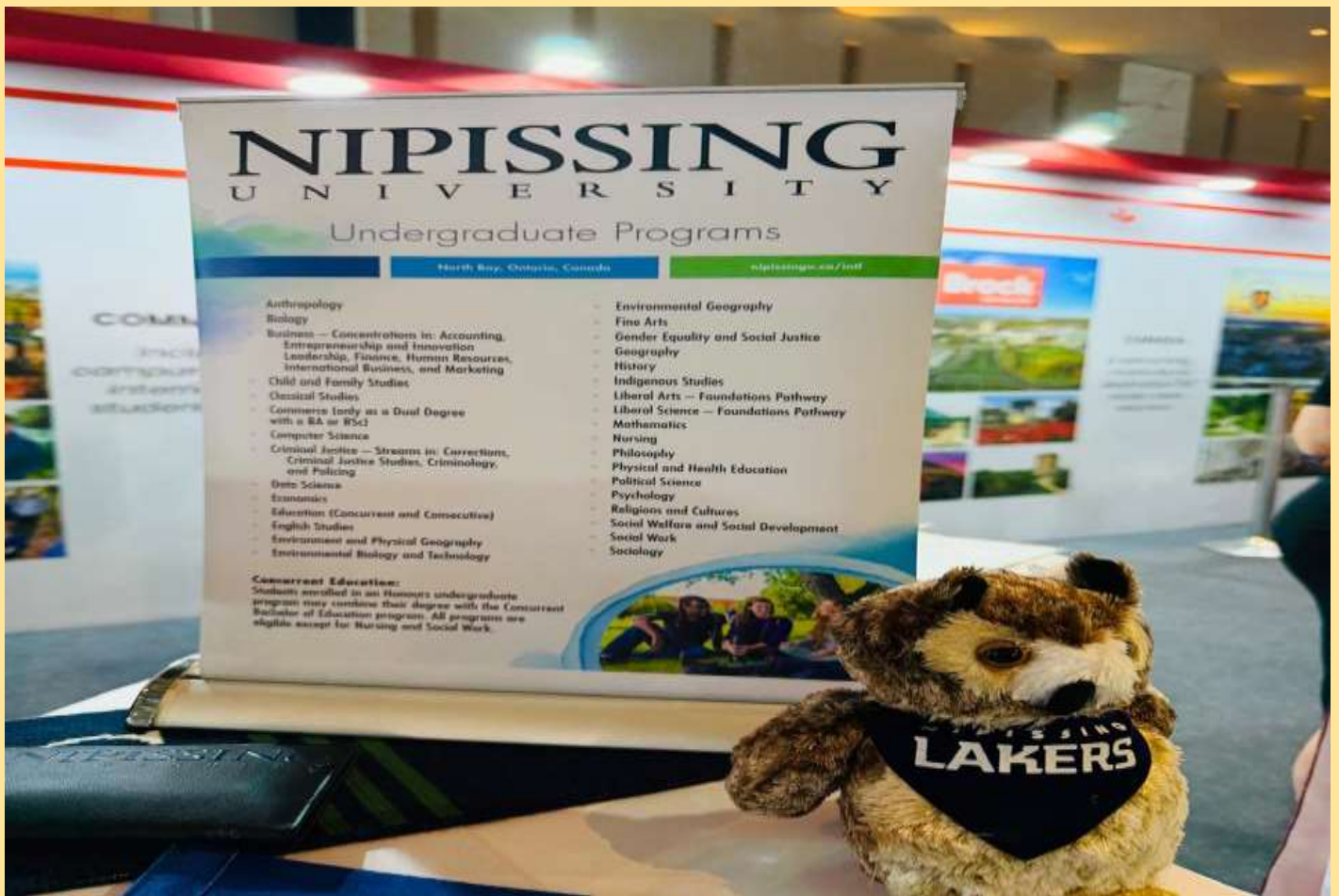
Student well-being formed another significant strand of the conference. "Behind the Bright Mask: When High Achievers Struggle Silently" brought attention to pressures that may remain invisible behind academic accomplishment. "Gen Alpha Youthquake: Reading the Pulse and Tuning Our Frequency" examined the distinctive outlook of a generation growing up amid rapid technological and social change. "Global Trends in School Well-being: From Research to Reality" connected current research with practices that can support healthier school environments. "Below the Surface: The Hidden Architecture of Student Success" encouraged educators to consider the less visible factors that influence achievement and personal development.

The conference also widened its focus to issues that shape the future in a broader global context. “Looking Deeply at IITs and Beyond” examined pathways into premier institutions and opportunities extending beyond familiar academic choices. “Make Earth Green Again” brought environmental consciousness into conversations about the future young people will inherit. “Geopolitics for Teenagers: Moving from Chaos to Clarity” considered the value of helping adolescents understand global developments and their implications. “Beyond Events: Are Schools Nurturing Dynamic, Future-Focused Career Ecosystems?” questioned whether career education should move beyond occasional programmes towards an integrated school culture. The conference concluded its counselling-oriented exploration with “Parent Partnership in Counselling: Promoting a Shared Culture in Schools,” emphasising the role of families in supporting young people as they navigate educational and professional possibilities.

The Honourable Principal considers participation in such forums an important avenue for broadening the school’s approach to career guidance and student well-being. In her view, counselling must extend beyond information about courses and professions and it should help students recognise their strengths and explore diverse opportunities with confidence. She also regards closer engagement among educators, students and parents as essential for creating a supportive environment in which young people can explore possibilities without being confined to conventional expectations. Looking beyond academic profiles to understand the aspirations, abilities and emotional needs of each student, she believes, is essential for helping them identify opportunities suited to their potential and preparing them for the contemporary realities of higher education and careers.















With Jim McLaughlin Assistant Vice President, IC3 Institute, US



With Mr. Tarun Anand, Chancellor and Founder of Universal AI University



Justice Chandrachud



With Dr Simon Mak, Fonding Vice Chancellor, Universal AI University, India



With Dr. Sanyam Bhardwaj, CBSE Controller of Examinations



With Dr, Jill Blondin, VC for Global Affairs at the University of Colorado Boulder and President-elect of the Association of International Education Administrators, US