

Symbiosis will start community college

Rural Students who have passed SSC exam would be eligible for admission



The community college will offer courses in agriculture, fisheries, and emergency medical services. It will also provide training in soft skills like resume writing, letter drafting, computers and secretarial practice.

1. An important academic event of the current year is the setting up of a Community College by the Symbiosis Open Education Society, Pune. The Government of India has taken up an ambitious program of starting 200 Community Colleges through out the country in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, and for this purpose designated IGNOU as the nodal agency. More than 600 organizations applied to IGNOU for allotment of the Community College. Symbiosis successfully presented its case and has been finally selected for setting up a Community College in a rural area. The college will be named "Symbiosis Community College". Tentatively, Symbiosis plans to start the CC in Mulshi taluka, in July, 2009
2. The Community College is an alternative system of education, which is aimed at the empowerment of the disadvantaged and the underprivileged (Urban poor, Rural poor, Tribal poor and Women) through appropriate skill development leading to gainful employment. The Community College is an innovative educational alternative that is rooted in the community providing holistic education and eligibility for employment to the disadvantaged. The vision of the Community College is to be of the Community, for the Community and by the Community for producing responsible citizens. The Community College promotes job oriented, work related, skill-based and life coping education.
3. The Community College will offer post-secondary programs leading to Associate Degrees in Arts, Science and Commerce, in addition to short-term diploma and certificate programs

4. The Symbiosis Community College will initially offer the following programs beginning from July/August, 2009 :

Diploma Course (one year):

- Diploma in Functional English

Certificate courses (six months)

- Soft Skills – Communication Skills, Personality Development etc.
- Resume Preparation and Interview Skills.
- Letter Drafting.
- Secretarial Practices.
- Computer Literacy Skills – MS Office, E-mail, Internet etc.
- Emergency Medical Services.

5. A Community College Board is being appointed under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.B. Mujumdar, President of the Symbiosis Open Education Society. Initially Ms. Swati Mujumdar, Principal Director, SOES, will also work as the Principal of the Community College. There will be an Academic Committee to ensure quality of courses.
6. The objective of the Community College will be primarily to educate and train the local population and also to facilitate economic development of the region through educational and skill based programs.