



University NEWS LETTER



sbstimes

Vol XIV, ISSUE 03, October, 2025

Editorial

The editorial team of SBSTimes extends warm wishes for a joyous festive season to the entire SBS University family. October at SBSU was marked by meaningful commemorations and vibrant celebrations that reaffirm our shared cultural values and institutional spirit.

Gandhi Jayanti on October 2 reminded us of Mahatma Gandhi's enduring ideals of non-violence and truth—principles that continue to guide ethical living and civic responsibility. Through reflection and remembrance, the community reaffirmed its commitment to these timeless values.

The birth anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri offered an occasion to honour the former Prime Minister's integrity, simplicity, and resolve in nation-building. Events and tributes celebrated his legacy and renewed our dedication to collective progress and public service.

Navratri and Vijayadashami added colour and cohesion to campus life. Navratri's devotional spirit and community participation in garba and dandiya highlighted the power of unity and respect for the divine feminine. Vijayadashami, with Ramlila performances and symbolic effigy burning, reaffirmed the triumph of good over evil and the courage to stand for righteousness.

As the festive season concludes, SBSTimes wishes everyone continued joy, prosperity, and harmony. May the spirit of celebration inspire purpose, positivity, and unity throughout the year.

Happy Reading!
Editorial Team

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MONTH



By:-
Dr. Nidhi s. Belwal
Associate Professor
Department of Microbiology

Learning by doing

The School of Agriculture and Forestry conducted a hands-on session in Horticulture Nursery Management at Rajeshwari Nursery, where students explored ornamental and fruit plant propagation, plant growth regulators, biofertilizers, and organic inputs. The experiential exercise strengthened practical competencies while nurturing analytical and entrepreneurial skills, aligned with ICAR's skill-based learning emphasis



Cleanliness drive



The 11 UK Battalion NCC organized a Cleanliness Drive at the Song River near Gullarghati on 31 October 2025, promoting environmental stewardship and civic responsibility through student-led participation. The initiative reinforced the value of community action and sustained campus-community engagement.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

Sardar Bhagwan Singh University observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas with a pledge-taking ceremony on 31 October 2025, commemorating Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's vision of national unity and integrity. Students and faculty reaffirmed their commitment to social cohesion and nation-building.



Guest Lecture: Empowering Future Innovators with AI & ML



The Department of Computer Science hosted an engaging guest lecture on Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning.

Delivered by Ms. Manisha Verma, Assistant Professor, DBS Global University, the session highlighted real-world applications, challenges, and opportunities in AI & ML. Students gained practical insights into how intelligent systems are transforming industries, research, and daily life.

Heartfelt thanks to the speaker and university authorities for this impactful event!



Faculty Development Programme

Sardar Bhagwan Singh University successfully hosted a five-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) titled “*Next Generation Approaches in Diagnostics for Clinical Excellence*” from October 6–10, 2025.

The event drew over 100 participants from national and international institutions and featured eminent speakers:

- Dr. Gunjan Singhal (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pathology, KKBM Subharti Hospital, Dehradun)
- Prof. (Dr.) Nilotpal Chaudhary (Dept. of Pathology, AIIMS Rishikesh)
- Dr. Mohit Chaudhary (Consultant & Head, Dept. of Transfusion Medicine and Transplant Immunology, Apollo Hospital, New Delhi)
- Dr. Abhishek Singh (Sr. Consultant & Head, Dept. of Microbiology, Dr. Lal Path Labs, Panipat)
- Prof. (Dr.) Deepak Verma (Program Officer Microbiologist, Centre for Health Research and Innovation – PATH affiliate, Bhubaneswar, Odisha)

Sessions explored cutting-edge diagnostic technologies, AI-driven molecular analysis, rapid detection methods, and patient-centered care—reinforcing SBS University’s commitment to innovation and clinical excellence.



Faculty Awards and Recognition

The Department of Physiotherapy, SBSU, excelled at THERA CONNECT 2025, an international conference hosted by SGT University, Gurugram:

Dr. Meghna Wadhwa – Academic Excellence Award

Dr. Maitri Chaturvedi – Excellence in Sports Physiotherapy

Dr. Vishal Verma – Young Excellence Award

Kudos to the department for this remarkable achievement!



SBSU representation

- The Department of Physiotherapy demonstrated exemplary representation at THERA CONNECT 2025, where Dr. R. Arun Mozhi served as Speaker and Chairperson.
- Students and faculty represented SBSU at the Unity March on 31 October 2025, organized to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

Patents

- Dr. Mohit Sanduja published an Indian utility patent titled “Ocimum Loaded Lyophilized Ethylcellulose Nanoparticles for Dual Therapeutic Use,” reflecting SBSU’s strengthening culture of innovation and translational research

James Watson's Microbiology Legacy and the End of an Era

Watson's story is tied to biology's growth, from studying phage plaques to managing petabytes of data, and from speculative models to reference genomes. The field he helped shape now has a larger, more self-aware community focused on making discoveries while honoring its core values. James D. Watson, the American geneticist who co-discovered DNA's double helix and helped establish modern molecular biology, died on November 6, 2025, at the age of 97. His death marks the end of the founding generation of the life sciences revolution. This event has prompted both a celebration of scientific achievements and a reflection on a complex personal legacy, highlighting how deeply one individual's career can influence and complicate the narrative of science.

#Microbiology roots Watson's journey into biology began with classic microbiology. As a graduate student, he trained with bacteriologist Salvador Luria and earned a Ph.D. in bacteriophages, the viruses that infect bacteria. This placed him in the phage community, which laid the groundwork for the methods and mindset of molecular biology. These phage studies provided the experimental framework that quickly focused on DNA as the hereditary material, allowing Watson to explore nucleic acid structure with Francis Crick.

#The double helix and its impact In 1953, Watson and Crick proposed the double helix model of DNA. This structural breakthrough explained base-pairing and how hereditary information is stored. In 1962, they received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, along with Maurice Wilkins, for this work. This model sparked a new era in microbiology, where DNA-centered thinking, gene mapping, and microbial genetics changed how biologists studied life at the molecular level.

Building institutions and fields Beyond discovery, Watson worked for decades to build scientific infrastructure. He was the director of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL) starting in 1968 and later became its president and chancellor. During his tenure, the lab expanded its cancer genetics and neuroscience programs, becoming a global center for molecular biology. His leadership at CSHL guided research towards tumor virology and oncogenes and brought together microbiology, virology, and genetics into a unified approach for understanding disease.

Human Genome Project bridge

From 1988 to 1992, Watson led the U.S. Human Genome Project at the National Institutes of Health. He helped organize and speed up the international effort to sequence the human genome and established standards for data sharing and collaboration. The Human Genome Project changed biomedical science and microbiology, influencing everything from comparative genomics of microbes to the tools and databases that now underpin genetics research.

Teaching and popular science Watson also influenced many through his impactful writing. His widely used texts and popular accounts brought concepts of molecular biology into classrooms and public discussions. These works helped make DNA-level explanations a standard part of microbiology curricula, transforming complex ideas into the basic language of the life sciences.

#Controversies and reckoning Watson's public comments on race and intelligence have been condemned as racist by many scientists and institutions. This led to his removal from various roles and honors at CSHL and cast a long shadow over his later years. The reactions from universities and scientific organizations highlighted community standards and accountability, showing that even scientific greatness does not shield one from ethical scrutiny.

#End of an era Watson's death represents the decline of the small, hands-on, model-organism-driven era that started molecular biology. Today's life sciences operate on a genomic scale, involving global teams and open data. From phage labs to the genome age, his career reflects biology's transformation, and with his passing, the founding generation of the field moves firmly into history.

Why it matters to students For students of microbiology and genetics, Watson's life serves as a lens for understanding how methods and institutions change, moving from bacteriophage studies to large scientific projects. It also highlights how technical breakthroughs can reshape entire disciplines. Additionally, it reminds us that scientific culture and leadership norms influence who can contribute and how discoveries are recognized. These issues remain pressing in today's research communities.

Mahek Rautela,
Prathivya Parashar
Bsc Microbiology 5 Sem

Patrons: Shri S.P. Singh, Chairman, Gaurav Bharti Shiksha Sansthan; Prof. Gaurav Deep Singh, President; Mr. Zorawar Singh, Manager.
Publisher: Prof. (Dr.), J. Kumar, Vice-Chancellor
Advisors: Dr. Luv Kush (Academic Advisor), Ms. Urmi Chaurasia (Controller of Examination)
Editorial Board: **Chief Editor:** Dr. Deepanshu Rana;
Members: Dr. Preeti Bhatt, Dr. Pooja Yadav, Dr. Alka Singh, Dr. Madhulika E Prasad
Student Editors: **Student Secretary:** Riya Jukariya; **Members:** Robin Singh, Aditi Maheshwari,
E-mail: sbsppublication@gmail.com/pcws.sbsu2018@gmail.com (**for Editorial Board**)

SARDAR BHAGWAN SINGH UNIVERSITY, BALAWALA, DEHRADUN-248161, UTTARAKHAND
TEL: 0135-2686246, **E-mail:** university.sbs@gmail.com, **website:** www.sbsuniversity.edu.in