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OUR VISION

*“A Centre of Excellence Committed to Research
and Innovation in Education.”*

Samtse College of Education

INTRODUCTION

Samtse College of Education (SCE) was founded by Bhutan's Third Dharma King His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuk. Launched as a Teacher Training Institute on 29th May 1968, the Institute commenced its educational journey with only 41 students and a few teacher educators. Since its establishment, this premier teacher education college has given the country's education system over 6556 graduates with primary teaching certificate, bachelors, diploma and masters qualification. The rich and varied experiences we offer our students are inspired by our philosophical commitment to the wisdom of Right View, Right Contemplation and Right Action, which collectively can lead to Right Fruition.

Among others, SCE is well known for its aesthetically and intellectually congenial environment for learning and professional growth. SCE offers high quality learning, teaching and research spaces to meet the needs of students, academics and researchers. The College offers postgraduate, undergraduate and diploma programmes in education. SCE has always embraced challenges as opportunities to look beyond and has been a role model in designing and delivering new academic programmes to answer the ever changing educational needs of the time.

Samtse College of Education has made significant impact on the lives of citizens with education, employment and enhanced lives. Most of the graduates are gainfully employed in various public and private schools. The College strives to play a pivotal role in the overall nation building processes through active engagement in research, outreach services and collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Samtse College of Education is situated in Southern Bhutan in Samtse Dzongkhag that ranges from 600-3,800 metres in altitude. With an area of approximately 1500 sq. kilometers, Samtse Dzongkhag is a little more than twice the size of Singapore. It shares an international border with the Indian states of Sikkim to the west and West Bengal to the south, and internal borders with Haa and Chukha Districts. SCE is located on a thickly wooded grassy slope from where one can take contemplative view of the mighty Indian plains. It spreads over a total campus area of 32 acres of land.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

Master of Education in Science and Mathematics

The programme is meant for secondary school science and mathematics teachers. It aims to prepare science and mathematics teachers to be critical, reflective and engage in educational research for continual growth and improvement of their professional practice.

This programme intends to help in-service teacher candidates to enhance the quality of teaching by up-scaling the teachers' content knowledge in their subjects of specialisation, professional values and pedagogical competencies.



Master of Arts in Contemplative Counselling Psychology (MACCP)



The Master of Arts in Contemplative Counselling Psychology is a part-time two-year degree programme offered to graduates of Postgraduate Diploma in Contemplative Counselling Psychology programme. The Programme aims to educate counsellors in Bhutan who could be eligible for certification under the Bhutan Board of Certified Counselors. The MACCP programme also aspires to build capacity for a growing counselling field in Bhutan by placing counselling trainees throughout the country in internships. The programme will prepare a network of graduates who will be competent providing ongoing collaboration and support to counsellors and para-professional counsellors throughout the country in the form of clinical supervision.

Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PgDE)

The Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PgDE) is offered in two modes: a full time one year programme and two years part-time programme. The Programme aims to educate secondary school teachers, who are capable of teaching a subject of specialization from classes IX to XII. The last cohort of the current one year PgDE programme will graduate in December 2019. The College plans to offer full time PgDE programme with a duration of one and half year from the Spring Semester of 2020.

Postgraduate Diploma in Contemplative Counseling Psychology (PgDCCP)

The Postgraduate Diploma in Contemplative Counselling Psychology programme is offered through two modes: one year full time and two year part-time. The programme aims to prepare competent and committed graduates who are capable of providing guidance and counselling services that are responsive to the changing needs of schools and the wider society. Contemplative practices, mindfulness, and self-awareness are an integral part of the programme to develop both insight and wisdom into one's own psychological experiences and those of others, thus cultivating the capacity to be mindful of the present moment and compassionate qualities, which are quintessential for a competent counselling professional.

Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education (PgCHE& PgDHE)

PgCHE is a nested one year part-time programme leading to PgDHE which is a two year part-time programme. PgCHE and PgDHE programmes are teaching qualifications for lecturers teaching in Higher Education. It meets the requirement that in addition to their subject expertise, students develop knowledge, scholarship and good practice in the areas of learning and teaching in higher education. A nested award allows progression from the lesser award (the PgCHE) to the higher award (the PgDHE).

The nested programmes are structured in a flexible manner to allow the students to take a break after completing the PgCHE and enroll for the PgDHE if they wish to continue. It is expected that students will accumulate the necessary credits and cover all the modules of the PgDHE programme subsequently.

Bachelors of Education in Secondary Teaching

The Bachelor of Education Secondary Programme is a four-year full time programme. The programme aims to produce competent and committed teachers, who can teach two subjects of specialisation effectively from classes VII – X in schools in Bhutan. The different components of B.Ed secondary programme comprise subjects of specialisation in science and humanities which form 50% of the total modules; and the modules on personal and professional development form the other 50% including teaching practice. With the government's decision to phase out B.Ed Secondary programme, the College did not have any new student enrolment in 2019. The last cohort for the existing B.Ed programme will graduate in June 2022.

Bachelors of Education in Primary Teaching

The Bachelor of Education (Primary) is a four-year full time programme. The programme aims to prepare teachers with higher academic and professional qualifications to teach effectively at primary school level. The programme require students to reflect and blend theory with practice through a combination of class-based learning in the college and field-based learning during the school practicum placements.

The programme also helps to prepare primary school teachers who are well-equipped to respond to the current educational climate in the country. The College no longer offer this programme and the last cohort of B. Ed Primary students will graduate in 2020.

Bachelors of Arts in Social Work

The Bachelor of Arts in Social Work is a four-year full time programme and will be launched in July 2019. The programme is anchored on SCE's philosophical vision of Right View, Right Contemplation and Right Action leading to Right Fruition. The BA in social work is aimed at preparing the next generation of social work professionals whose knowledge, skills and values will be guided by the wisdom of Jinpa (sbyin-pa) – the act of beneficence or generosity. It will prepare and equip social work graduates with knowledge, skills and insights required to be efficient social work professionals.

Faculty Strength

For each of the academic programmes the college has well qualified and experienced faculty to offer modules. Currently, the college has 10 faculties with PhD Qualification and 37 faculties with Masters Qualification.

RESEARCH & COLLABORATION

The college envisions to undertake high-quality research in educational policy, practice and leadership; the college also seeks to generate policy advice and research support to stakeholders in the government and private sectors; and further, the college aspires to engage in international research partnerships that will lead to innovation in education. All academic programmes aims to implement research-led pedagogy in learning and teaching.

To enhance the research capacity of faculty and students, the college has taken major initiatives such as institution of a **biannual faculty-student research convention**, publication of a research journal called **Education- al Innovation and Practice**, and annual publication of the college newsletter called **Shes-Rig PAGES**. The college has instituted College Research Stimulus Fund (CRSF) to encourage faculty engage in research.

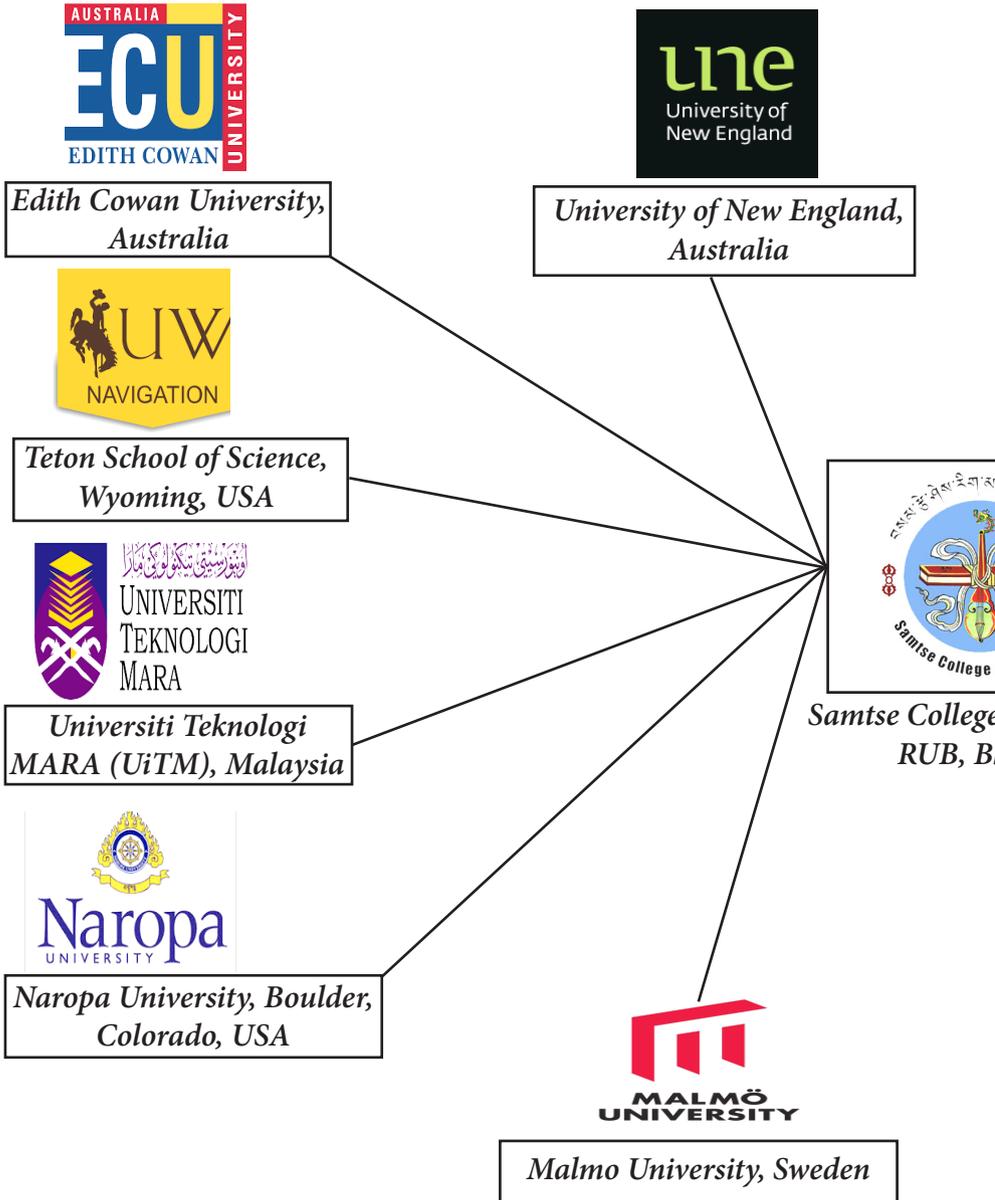
The College encourages and supports faculty members and students' participation in national and international conferences and publication in peer reviewed journals. Lecturers have travelled outside Bhutan to present papers in international conferences and a significant number of lecturers have published papers in peer reviewed journals. The number of research grants acquired has significantly improved over the last couple of years.

Student Exchange

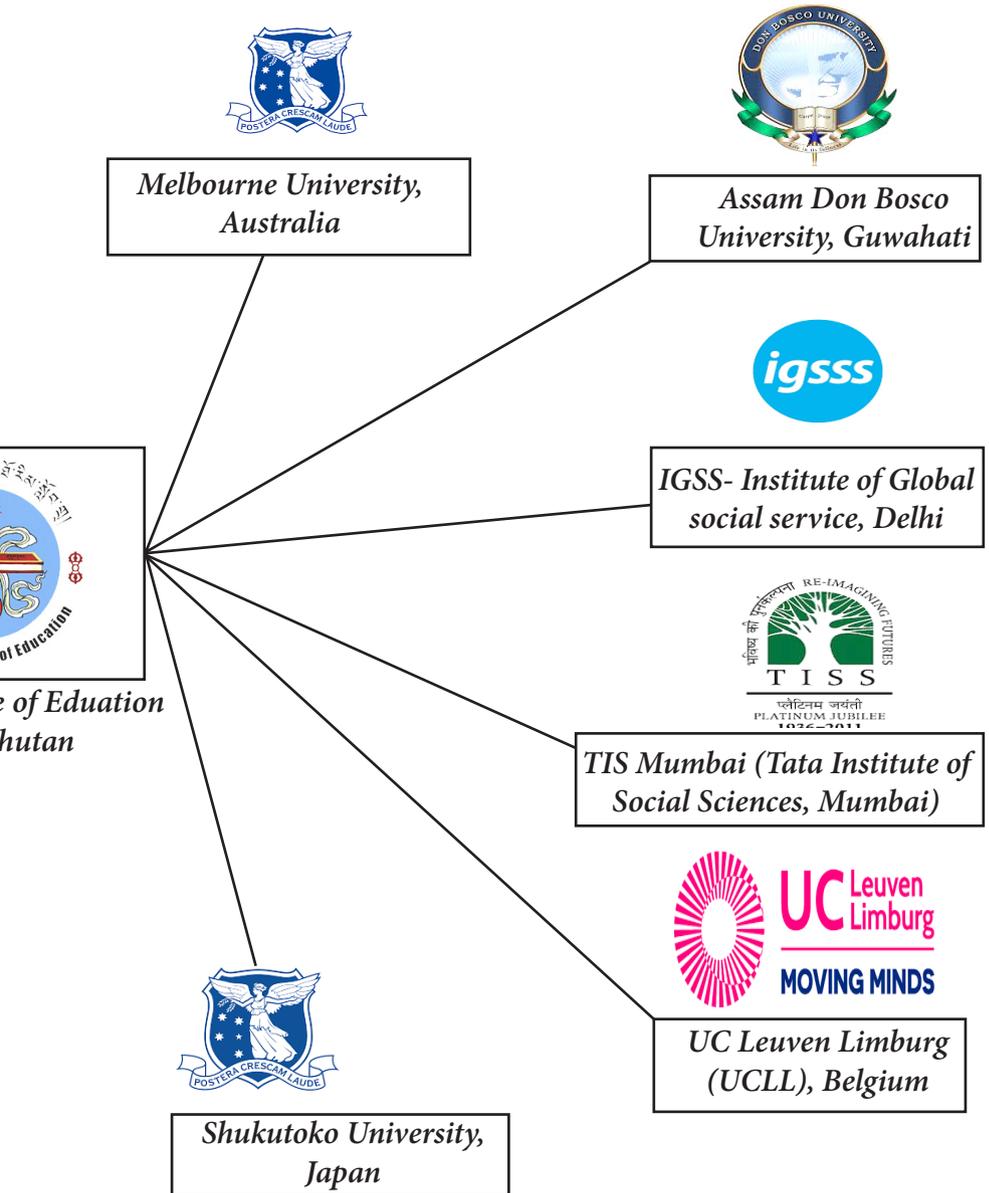
The college has initiated student exchange programme with Malmo University in Sweden and University College Leuven Limburg (UCLL) in Belgium. The college is in the process of initiating student exchange programme with Edith Cowen University in Perth, Western Australia; Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia; University of New England in Armidale, NSW, in Australia; and Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado, USA.

External Linkages

In the recent years to keep abreast with the global trends in education and with reputed institutions abroad.



research the college has taken extra initiative in networking and linking



Sports and Recreation



Samtse College of Education has a soccer field, a basketball court, a futsal field, an indoor fitness centre and other facilities to engage the students in a variety of sports activities for their physical health and wellbeing. The College values wholesome development of the students and organises a number of sporting activities which are crucial for their mental health and emotional wellbeing as well. Participation in all sporting events and recreational activities is crucial for future teachers who are expected to play multi-faceted roles as teachers in their future teaching career.



Culture



Teachers are often referred to as cultural soldiers considering the significant roles they play in grooming young children in school to develop a high sense of regard for the rich cultural values and heritage of Bhutan. Cognisant of this paramount role that teachers play besides classroom teaching, SCoE prepares future teachers by providing them with varied experience and opportunity to learn and develop a genuine regard for the rich Bhutanese cultural values and heritage, including arts, music and dance. The college “*Lu-Rig Centre*” and the “*College Arts Club*” which have their own dedicated space provides students with the platform to develop their musical talents and artistic skills.



Book Shop

Peling Books is located strategically in the heart of the College campus. Students can buy a wide variety of books including fiction, non-fiction, children's literature, sport and recreation, Buddhism, and a host of other subjects. Peling Books also sells stationery materials and provide reprographic services at a nominal rate for the students.



Residence

Samtse College of Education has eight on-campus hostels for men and women. Students who are admitted to the college are provided residence on campus, depending on the availability of space in these hostels. All student residential facilities are connected with fibre optic network and efficient wifi connectivity, that provides the students with a very reliable internet services to support their learning and growth.



Counselling Service and Mindfulness Practice

The College has established Centre for Contemplative Counselling which endeavors to adapt ancient contemplative practices into the rigorous modern way of life, delivering counselling and psychology education that is characterized by full integration of the values of compassionate, mindful and sustainable society. All students have access to counselling services provided by experienced and internationally certified counsellors. Periodically the Centre also organises mindfulness practice and retreat for staff, students and other individuals seeking the service.



Printing & Reprography

The College has two designated spaces, one in the College Library and the other in the main academic block that provide timely printing and reprographic services for students. Such timely and responsive services are crucial in supporting students' academic attainments and contributes immensely in enhancing the general student health and wellbeing of the students.

ICT Facilities

The college has three IT labs which are connected to internet through fiber optics with 32mbps bandwidth. In addition to IT labs, wireless connectivity is made available in the whole campus





Science Laboratory

The College has a spacious science block, with 3 laboratories viz. Physics, Chemistry, and Biology along with 3 classrooms and a lecture hall. Each laboratory can accommodate up to 30 students at a time for practical work. The existing laboratory spaces are sufficient for students to carry out experiments and research related activities. All the three laboratories in the College are equipped with necessary measuring apparatus, instruments, materials and chemicals for carrying out experiments in the three disciplines of science.

Library Services



The College has good library space and it is equipped with adequate copies of books as required for the modules offered in different programmes. The college library also has access to the online e-books and journals through Research4life, EBSCO and open access databases like, DOAJ, Open Access Library and collettetextbook.org, and many more. All this database provide latest resources such as e-books, and online journal articles.

