



# SAVE THE DATE

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE3)

**JANUARY 9-11, 2025**

**ORGANISED BY DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION,  
SNDT WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY  
IN COLLABORATION WITH JAI VAKEEL FOUNDATION**



**Department of Special Education, SNTD Women's University**

*in Collaboration with*

**Jai Vakeel Foundation**

*organises*

**International Conference on Education (ICE3)**

*on the Theme*

**Embracing Diversity: The Intersectional Experience**

(CRE Status awaited)

**Date:** January 09-11, 2025

**Mode:** Hybrid

**Venue:** Garware Club, Churchgate, Mumbai (<https://garwareclub.co.in/>)  
(Conference and Accommodation)

**Sub Themes**

1. Best Practices for Inclusion: Through the Lens of Ability, Caste and gender, and Socio-Economic Status
2. Therapies for Inclusion: Conventional and Beyond
3. Role of Legislature and Judiciary for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
4. Breaking Stereotypes: Role of Media in Inclusion
5. Inclusion: The Role of Technology
6. Socio-Economic Inclusion in 21st Century
7. Social and Psychological Dimensions of Inclusion
8. Reduced Inequalities: Working Towards Meeting the SDGs and NEP 2020 guidelines

**Patron:** Prof. Ujwala Chakradeo, Vice Chancellor SNTD Women's University

**Convenors:** Prof. Sujata Bhan, Head Department of Special Education SNTDWU  
Ms Archana Chandra CEO Jai Vakeel Foundation

**Advisory Committee**

1. Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay (Former Chairperson, RCI)
2. Prof. Aloka Guha (Former Chairperson, National Trust)
3. Dr Jayanthi Narayan (Dy. Dir. NIEPID, former visiting Professor Northampton University, UK)
4. Dr Anahita Hegde Pediatric Neurologist, Jaslok Hospital

### **International Advisory Committee**

1. Prof. Richard Rose, Professor Emeritus, University of Northampton
2. Prof. Elizabeth Dalton, Adjunct Professor, Rhodes Island University
3. Prof. Susie Gronseth, University of Houston
4. Dr Sean Bracken, Principal Lecturer, University of Worcester

### **International Resource Persons (offline)**

1. Prof. Elizabeth Dalton, Adjunct Professor, Rhodes Island University, USA
2. Prof. Susie Gronseth, University of Houston
3. Dr Sean Bracken, Principal Lecturer, University of Worcester, UK
4. Prof. Richard Rose, Professor Emeritus, University of Northampton, UK
5. Prof. Mustapha, Ibn Zohr University, Morocco
6. Dr Rinchen Dorji, Samtse College of Education, Bhutan
7. Dr Eleonora, Director of Psychological and Pedagogical Victor Center, Macerata, Italy
8. Ms Tamar Appel, Campo Director CimeH Institute, Israel
9. Dr Julia Lindley-Baker Programme Leader SENI Bishop Grosseteste University, UK

### **International resource persons (online)**

1. Dr Deborah Gleason, Perkins School for the Blind, USA
2. Dr Lena Wuntke, University of Greifswald, Germany
3. Dr Johny Daniel, Durham University, UK
4. Dr Joanne Banks University of Dublin, Ireland

### **National resource persons**

1. Dr MNG Mani, CEO ICEVI (International Council for the Education of Persons with Visual Impairment)
2. Dr Bhushan Punani, Director Blind People's Association
3. Dr Aloka Guha Former Chairperson National Trust
4. Dr Mythili Ramachand Head Centre of Excellence of Education, TISS
5. Mr Akhil Paul Director Sense India
6. Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay, Former Chairperson, RCI
7. Prof. Jayanthi Narayan Rtd. Deputy Director NIEPVD and Former Visiting Professor Northampton University, UK

8. Dr Namita Jacob Education Founder Director Chetna Trust
9. Prof. Victoria Naomi Dean Education, Avinashilingam University
10. Dr Vijay Sharma Head Dpt. of Visual Impairment Dr Shakuntala Mishra Rehabilitation University
11. Prof. Anupam Ahuja Former Head DGESN NCERT
12. Prof. Anita Julka Former Head DGESN NCERT
13. Dr Anahita Hegde Pediatric Neurologist, Jaslok Hospital
14. Prof. S R Mittal Retd. Prof. CIE Delhi University

### **Panelists**

1. Dr Sushma Nagarkar Founder Yash Charitable Trust
2. Ms Rekha Balgi Parent Advocate
3. Cdr.Biju President AWMH
4. Ms Vidya Balan Film Actor
5. Ms Farak Khan Film Producer
6. Ms Swati Bhatkal Member Amir khan Productions
7. Ms Sudha KY ASD Buddy
8. Ms Shilpi Kapoor Barrier Break
9. Mr Amole Gupte

### **About Department of special Education, SNTD Women's University**

In its endeavour to produce trained professionals SNTD Women's University, Mumbai, established the Department of Special Education in 1977. The University has a legacy of 108 years that strives to empower women of the country with quality education. This Department is first of its kind to offer Special Education Training at degree level to women graduates to teach and manage children with various exceptionalities. All children can reach their optimum potential if given the opportunity, required resources and a skilled teacher. Special Education aims to meet the needs of children with diverse needs. Today, the Department of Special Education, besides conducting training programs that are disability specific, also conducts several short term programmes that are geared towards developing professionals for inclusive education. It aims to create platform to create awareness in the community about the needs and the rights of children with disabilities. With this objective, the department plans the Third International conference on Education (ICE 3).

(visit our <https://dsesndtwu.in/department/>)

## **About Jai Vakeel Foundation**

Founded in 1944, Jai Vakeel Foundation(JVF) is one of the oldest and largest not-for-profit institutes in India serving children and adults with Intellectual Disability(ID). From teaching them to perform daily activities to obtaining employment, JVF serves the entire spectrum of ID from borderline IQ to profoundly challenged between the ages of 3-50 years. JVF has a holistic approach; it aims to integrate students into mainstream society by providing them with Healthcare, Education, and Skill Development. So far, it has impacted over 1 lakh lives, provided 20,500 children with free therapy through our rural camps, and trained 2200 special educators from over 475 schools across 36 districts in Maharashtra through Disha Abhiyan. In our 80th year, we aim to work towards our larger vision - of inclusion of all individuals with ID - by fostering meaningful conversations, changing perspectives and building awareness through the Third International Conference on Education (ICE 3).

## **Concept Note on the Conference**

The concept of diversity encompasses a multitude of dimensions, and at its core lies the intricate interplay of various identities and experiences. "Embracing Diversity: The Intersectional Experience" explores the nuanced intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class, ability, and other facets of identity. This concept note outlines the importance, challenges, and opportunities in embracing diversity through an intersectional lens, recognizing the multifaceted nature of individuals and communities. Inclusion is about embracing diversity. It is a practice of creating an environment where all individuals feel valued, respected, and supported, regardless of their differences across ability, socio-economic status, caste, and gender. Embracing diversity aims to create an inclusive and equitable environment by acknowledging and valuing the unique contributions and diverse experiences following the intersectional approach. It is important to continually assess and adapt these practices to ensure they meet the evolving needs of the society.

'Reduced inequalities' is one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations in order to create a more equitable world. It aims to ensure that everyone, regardless of their background or circumstances, has equal access to opportunities and resources. The legislature and judiciary work hand in hand to create and enforce laws that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. Their role is crucial in addressing systemic inequalities and ensuring that all individuals have equal opportunities and access to resources.

The social and psychological dimensions of inclusion are closely intertwined as now globally accepted post-Covid-19 experiences. Inclusive environments foster positive social interactions and relationships, which in turn enhance individuals' mental well-being and cognitive development. By embracing inclusion, societies can create a more equitable and prosperous future for all. Socio-economic inclusion is a pressing issue in the 21st century as societies seek to create a more equitable and sustainable future. This requires concerted efforts from governments, international organizations, businesses, and civil society to address the barriers and disadvantages faced by marginalized groups, promote inclusive growth, and ensure that technological advancements benefit all. Technological advancements and the digital revolution have created new opportunities for inclusive growth, such as online education, remote work, and e-commerce. However, it also poses new challenges, such as the digital divide and the concentration of power in the hands of a few technology giants. Therefore, there is a need to ensure that the benefits of technological advancement are accessible to all, and to regulate the use of technology in a way that promotes inclusive and equitable outcomes.

The media plays a significant role in breaking stereotypes and promoting inclusion in society. The media can foster a more inclusive and accepting society by challenging stereotypes and representing diverse individuals and communities.

Therapies and evidence-based interventions are the lifeline of interventions to support individuals to enable them to develop and enhance their potential. Traditional therapies like occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech therapy are prevalent in practice. However, today alternate therapies such as Art based Therapy, Dance/Movement Therapy, Music Therapy,

Animal-Assisted Therapy, Adventure Therapy, etc. are being used to promote self-expression, and aid in overall realization of the full potential of individuals.

**Objectives:**

1. To provide a forum to promote conversations about inclusion with a focus on intersectional experience
2. To reflect on innovative research and evidence-based practices
3. To share and learn from the varied experiences nationally and internationally

**Participants expected: 300**