

Visit to the American Centre, Kolkata – Session on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA)

On the occasion of National Library Week, the Department of Library, Loreto College along with the Library Society organized a session on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) in association with the American Centre, Kolkata. Around 150 students from the Under Graduate, Post Graduate (English) and B.Ed departments of the College participated in this programme held at the American Centre on November 19, 2024. Gentry O. Smith, the Assistant Secretary of the United States of America for Diplomatic Security, was the special guest for the session. This session, in conversation with the Director of the American Center, Elizabeth Lee, aimed to foster a deeper understanding of DEIA principles and their significance in various sectors, particularly in international relations and education.

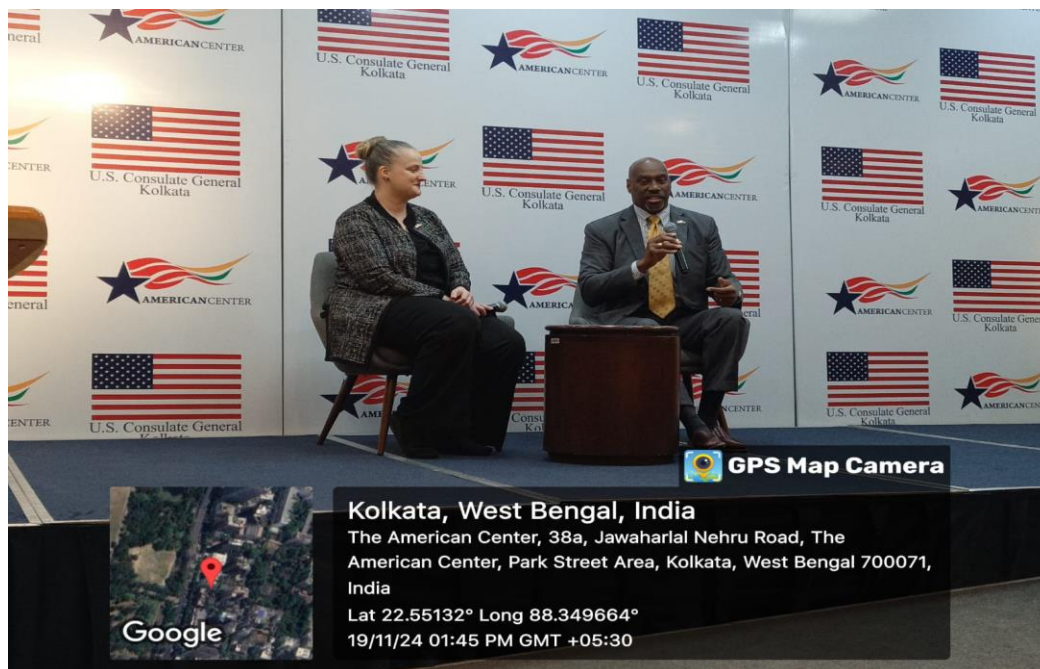
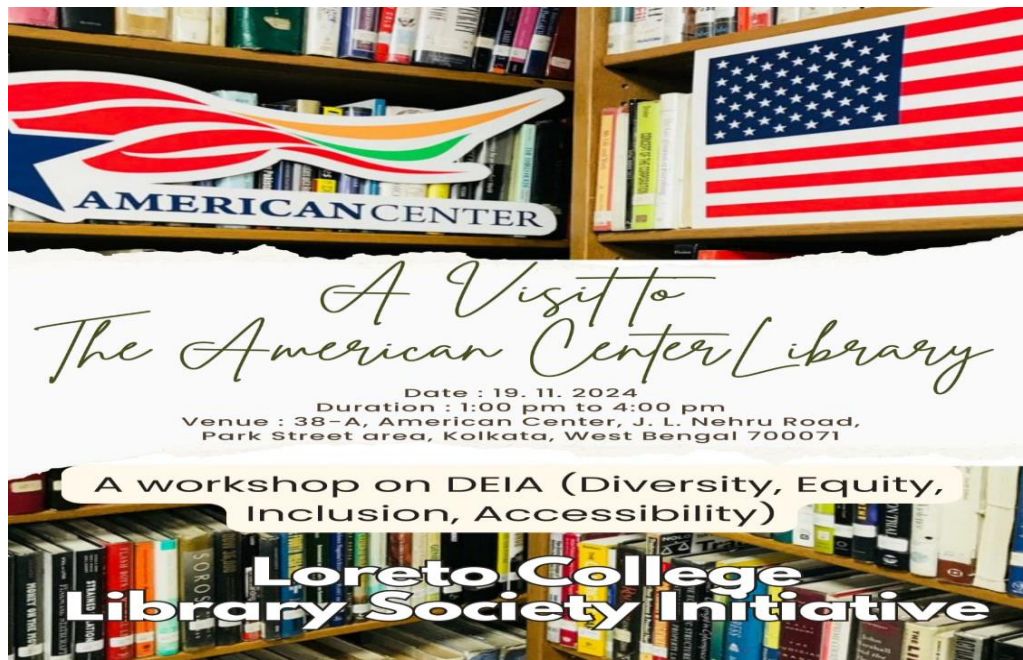
The session began with a brief yet insightful introduction of Assistant Secretary Gentry O. Smith, who highlighted the importance of promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility both in the workplace and in broader society. Following this introduction, a lively question-and-answer session ensued, where the students of Loreto College actively engaged with the Assistant Secretary. This interactive discussion allowed students to ask pertinent questions related to diplomacy, security, and DEIA, providing them with a unique opportunity to converse directly with a prominent international figure.

The session took a lighter turn with a fun quiz, which tested the participants' knowledge on a variety of subjects related to the US, promoting both learning and camaraderie. A group photo was taken after the quiz to commemorate the successful event, capturing the excitement of the day.

In the next part of the programme, students were presented with valuable information about higher education opportunities in the United States. This was followed by a detailed presentation on alumni and student exchange programmes, shedding light on the opportunities for students to engage in cross-cultural exchange and enhance their academic pursuits internationally.

To wrap up the event, participants were given a guided tour of the American Center Library by the librarian, Debasis Ghosh. The tour showcased the extensive resources available to students, including a hands-on training session on the digital library system, helping students become familiar with the vast array of online resources for academic research.

Overall, the session provided an enriching experience for the students, offering them insights into DEIA, higher education opportunities, and international student exchange programmes, while also fostering a spirit of inclusivity and global understanding.



Gentry O. Smith, the Assistant Secretary of the United States of America for Diplomatic Security with the Director of the American Center, Elizabeth Lee



Our 150 students from the Under Graduate, Post Graduate (English) and B.Ed departments

