Padma Bhushan Dr. S. B. Mujumdar established Symbiosis in 1971 on the principles of the Vedic thought of "World as One Family." Symbiosis International University was given "Deemed to be University" status by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2002. The University was accredited by NAAC with Grade 'A' and CGPA of 3.35 in 2009. Symbiosis International University has a rich heritage of cutting-edge innovation and enterprise, and of quality through pursuit of educational excellence. The University offers a total of 107 programmes at Diploma, Undergraduate, Post-graduate and Doctoral levels under the faculties of Law, Management, Computer Studies, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Media, Communication and Design, Humanities and Social Sciences and Engineering. The University has 28 constituent Institutes distributed in 9 campuses located at Pune, Nasik, Bengaluru and NOIDA. It catered to 11,122 students in 2012 (6335 undergraduate, 4787 post-graduate), a significant growth from the 1,502 it facilitated in 2002. The University has recently established 4 new schools for Liberal Arts, Photography, Biomedical Sciences and International Studies. Access to several learning resources via the library, availability of housing facilities on several campuses, scholarship programmes to promote academic excellence, a health centre to promote preventive and curative care and events organised by the University Sports Board have facilitated well-rounded development of students. Symbiosis has academic collaborations with reputed foreign universities like Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, University of Houston in USA, Berlin School of Economics and Law in Germany and others. The Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE) promotes internationalisation and invites international students to the University for a Semester Abroad Programme.

The University is actively involved with student and faculty exchange programmes and has also introduced the Scholar-in-Residence Programme. SCIE delivers a 3-week intensive 'Study India' programme for the benefit of international students from over 75 countries that study here. The 'Deemed to be University' status has enabled the University to enter into collaborations with renowned research centres across the nation. In addition to this, the University has recently established the Symbiosis Institute of Research and Innovation (SIRI) with the main objective of promoting high quality research and encouraging the faculty to undertake more research activities.

Symbiosis is an inclusive Institution, staying true to its vision of being the preferred destination for all who aspire to excel.