The Office of International Relations at IIT Bombay aims to facilitate internationalization efforts across campus with specific emphasis on the research collaborations and bilateral exchanges between IIT Bombay and foreign institutions/universities. We emphasize developing a multicultural community of students, preparing our students for global environments, and helping foster collaborations in research and education. The office works actively to develop, establish and maintain international partnerships. We are thankful for the cooperation and support provided by IIT Bombay faculty members/staff members/students in carrying out international relations activities and I am excited to share the activities of the past six months through this newsletter. Happy reading!

International Visitors/Meetings

Welcoming international visitors to our campus helps sustain and expand our international profile. We value our many international partnerships and for building and sustaining these partnerships it is essential that the meetings with our international visitors are well-planned, achieve intended outcomes, and leave visitors favorably impressed and committed to their relationship with IIT Bombay. Of course, the pandemic did not create virtual meetings, but it raised their popularity drastically and this seems to stay for some more time as it is convenient in many ways for all involved. In the past six months we had meetings as follows:

- Mergasor Technical Institute of Kurdistan, Iraq – 12th July 2022 - Dr. Talib Muhammadsharif Omer, Dean
- Virginia Commonwealth University, USA – 14th July 2022 - Prof. Michael Rao, President
- Nanyang Technical University, Singapore – 15th July 2022 – Prof. Lam Khin Yong, Senior Vice President (Research); Prof. Tim White, Vice President, Office of International Engagement and President's Chair in Materials Science & Engineering; Prof. B.V.R. Chowdari, Senior Executive Director, India Strategy International Engagement; Prof. Shane Snyder, Executive Director, NEWRI; Prof. Adil Dhall, Managing Director, START Centre; Dr. Chava Vijaya Saradhi, Deputy Director, Technology Development, NTU Innovation Centre & Ms. Preeti Dawra; Director, Global Marketing, Office of International Engagement
- Consulate General of The Republic of Indonesia in Delhi – 18th July 2022 - Mr. Eko Junor, Consul for Socio-Culture & Prof. Aldrin Herwany, Attache of Education
• University of Miami, USA – 19th July 2022 - Dr. Pratim Biswas, Dean, College of Engineering, Professor Chemical, Environmental and Materials Engineering and affiliated with Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
• Consulate General of Denmark in Bangalore – 1st August 2022 - Dr. Søren Tranberg Hansen, Counsellor for Science and Research

• U.S. Consulate General in Mumbai – 2nd August 2022 - Mr. Harold Brayman, Commercial Officer & Ms. Noella Monteiro, U.S. Commercial Service
• University of Alberta, Canada – 18th August 2022 - Prof. Cen Huang, Vice Provost and Associate Vice President International; Dr. Catherine Swindlehurst, Chief Strategy Officer; Dr. Amit Kumar, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and President of Engage India: Association of Professors & Ms. Maria Mathai, Advisor India
• Bar-Ilan University, Israel – 22nd August 2022 – Prof. Moshe Lewenstein, Vice president for Internationalism; Prof. Rachel Dekel, Academic Head of the International School; Mr. Ofer Dahan, Executive Director of the International School & Ms. Radhika Haldankar, Country Coordinator India
• Embassy of Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Delhi – 1st September 2022 - H.E. Mrs. Peggy Frantzen, Ambassador of Luxembourg to India; Mr. Perses Bilimoria, Honorary Consul of Luxembourg in Mumbai & Mr. Abhishek Wadehra, Business Developer
• Consulate General of France in Mumbai – 19th September 2022 - Mr. Jean-Marc Séré-Charlet, Consul General; Dr. Olivier Fudym, Attache for Scientific and Academic Cooperation & Ms. Amruta Datar, Deputy to Attache of Academic and Scientific Cooperation West India
• Technical University of Munich, Germany – 23rd September 2022 - Prof. Juliane Winkelmann, Senior Vice President International Alliances and Alumni & Ms. Mohaa Vyas, Senior Regional Manager, India

• Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany – 10th October 2022 - Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel, President; Prof. Dr. Tatjana Schneider, Vice President for International Affairs; Dr.
Eika Auschner, International House & Prof. Dr. Sándor Fekete, Chair, Algorithms Division, Department of Computer Science.

- Russian Centre for Science and Culture in Mumbai – 18th October 2022 - Dr. Elena Remizova, Vice-Consul of the Russian Consulate and Director & Mr. T V Rajeev, Administrator
- MIT Sloan School of Management, USA – 27th October 2022 - Dr. Urmia Samadar - Assistant Dean
- Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany – 3rd November 2022 - Consul General Achim Fabig & Deborah von Frankenberg und Ludwigsdorff, Cultural Officer
- Imperial College of London, UK – 3rd November 2022 – Prof. Maggie Dallman, Vice President International and Associate Provost Academic Partnerships; Mr. Alex Page, Senior International Relations Officer for Asia & Ms. Rosanna Gillespie International Relations Officer, South Asia
- Jeju National University, South Korea – 4th November 2022 - Prof. Cho Moon Jae, Dean of International Affairs; Prof. Jenie Hahn, Office of International Affairs and Ms. Miji Oh, Office of International Affairs

- Loughborough University, UK – 7th November 2022 – Prof. Nick Jennings, Vice-Chancellor and President of Loughborough University; Prof. Martyn Edwards, Director of Marketing and Advancement; Prof Bala Vaidhyanathan, University Special Envoy India, Department of Materials, School of Aeronautical, Automotive, Chemical and Materials Engineering; Ms. Tanika Dhiri, Graduate Management Trainee & Dr Kirti Ruikar – University Special Envoy India, School of Architecture Building and Civil Engineering
- University of Bristol, UK – 14th November 2022 – Prof. Ian Bond, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering; Prof. Charl Faul, Faculty International Director of the Faculty of Science; Ms Lorna Cuckow, Deputy Director International and Head of International Partnerships and Relations & Mr. Devesh Anand, Country Manager, India
- Riga Technical University, Latvia – 14th November 2022 – Prof. Igors Tipans, Deputy Rector of International Cooperation and Studies & Ms. Zane Purlaura, Deputy Director of International Cooperation and Foreign Students Department
- Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Brazil – 22nd November 2022 - Prof. Jose’ Orlando Gomes President-International Ergonomics Association (IEA), UFRJ’s Coordinator for International Affairs to BRICS Countries.
- Institute of Science & Technology Austria – 23rd November 2022 - Prof. Thomas A. Henzinger, President; Prof. Michael Sixt, Executive Vice President & Dr. Georg Schneider, Managing Director
- Office of Jon Ossoff, US Senator for Georgia – 30th November 2022 - Balaji Narain, General Counsel

- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign – 5th December 2022 - Prof. Joseph Walsh, Interim Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation
- Coventry University, Singapore Hub – 12th December 2022 - Mr. Jovie Pebrihandono, Regional Business Development Executive
- Swinburne Vietnam – 22nd December 2022 - Ms. Ha Do Thanh Thu, Coordinator of the Global Engagement Center
- Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Russia – 23rd December 2022 - Prof. Dmitry Burovenko, Head of the International Department & Prof. Irina Obukhova, Leading specialist on international relations and projects
- Finnish delegation (including Embassy Personals, Business and Company Personals) led by the Minister of Employment of Finland on 16th December 2022

**Partnerships**

IIT Bombay has partnership agreements in countries around the globe, laying the foundation for profound and enriching international educational and research experiences for both faculty and students. The process for establishing and renewing agreements with international universities exists to protect the interests of faculty, students and departments working to establish linkages, as well as the interest of the institute overall. Following is the list of universities with whom IIT Bombay have established or renewed partnerships:

- Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska on behalf of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, USA
- Daffodil University, Bangladesh
- Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland
- Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Hiroshima University, Japan
- Institut superieur de l aeronautique et de l espace, France
- Kochi University of Technology, Japan
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, Sweden
Faculty Research Workshops

For international networking, our Office of Dean International Relations organizes Faculty Research Workshops with international partner universities to encourage conversations and foster collaborations. These Workshops are conducted to facilitate the interactions among the faculty members at IIT Bombay and partner universities so that they come up with some joint collaborations or projects. During these workshops, faculty members participate from the universities, present their research, and explore the possibilities of collaboration. These workshops led to many successful collaborations, joint students, and joint projects.

IITs and Hokkaido University, Japan: Sustainable Transportation System and Infrastructure (STSI) program is a short-term educational program supported by the Ministry of Japan and jointly conducted by Hokkaido University, IIT Bombay, IIT Hyderabad, and IIT Madras. This program aims at contributing to the development of human resources capable of playing roles in the promotion of teamwork research between Japan and India for Developing Sustainable Transportation systems and Infrastructures. A joint faculty research workshop was held on 21st July 2022 in an online mode wherein professors from these institutes participated and presented their ongoing research and discussed ways to collaborate. From IIT Bombay, Prof. P J Guruprasad, Prof. Siddhartha P Duttagupta, Prof. Amber Shrivastava, Prof. Manish Kumar, Prof. Manoj Neergat, Prof. Sudarshan Kumar, and Prof. Asish Kumar Sarangi participated.

IITs and University of Buffalo, USA: This workshop, featured presentations and discussions in the area of Nano-materials for Electronics, Photonics, and Biotechnology and was held at IIT Delhi from 28th to 30th November 2022. Researchers from IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, IIT Delhi, IIT Jodhpur, IIT BHU, Ashoka University, and the University of Buffalo, USA participated in this workshop. From IIT Bombay, Prof. Siddhartha P Duttagupta, Prof. Alankar Alankar, Prof. Shobha Shukla, submitted three project proposals in collaboration with University the of Buffalo and other partner universities. Also, Prof. Maryam Shojaei and Prof. Soumyo Mukherji from IIT Bombay joined as the team members of project proposed by Prof. Ramgopal Rao, IIT Delhi.
**Technical University of Denmark, Denmark:** Technical University of Denmark (DTU) is a valuable partner of IIT Bombay and we have been actively collaborating with DTU in terms of student exchange, faculty connect, and regular leadership meetings. Prof. KVK Rao, Deputy Director Finance and External Affairs visited DTU in August 2022 to discuss ways this partnership can be further enhanced. As an offshoot of this visit, a faculty research workshop was conducted at IIT Bombay on 21st November 2022 wherein researchers from IIT Bombay and DTU interacted to explore joint research collaborations. This workshop helped the two institutes converge in the more specific research areas i.e., energy and water for collaborations considering the interest of both side researchers. We look forward to concrete joint proposals in these areas with these interactions.

### Consortiums

Under consortiums, a pool of higher education institutions come together to enhance international academic cooperation to the next level thereby expanding their international network. The member institutions are interested and committed to developing international cooperation through leadership meetings, innovative programs, combined events, and research conferences.

### Asian Universities Alliance

The Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) is a university alliance comprising 15 member universities across Asia. Founded in 2017, through its platform AUA aims to cooperatively address regional and global challenges relating to higher education as well as economic, scientific and technological development. Each year, AUA holds a variety of programs that promote student mobility, research collaboration, and the sharing of university strategies and policies among its member universities.

**AUA Overseas Study Program 2022 on Freight Transportation in Planning and Logistics (FTPL):** Under the consortia Asian Universities Alliance (AUA), IIT Bombay Office of International Relations and the Department of Civil Engineering (CE) hosted a short-term program in online mode from 4th July 2022 to 15th July 2022 on FTPL for the students of AUA member universities and students of non-AUA international partner universities. Prof. Gopal Patil from (CE) conducted this program. The efficient movement of goods is critical for economic development, safety, congestion, environment, and this program covered various key topics in freight transportation planning and logistics operations. In total 27 students from AUA and non-AUA member universities participated in this program.

**AUA Online Education Fair 2022:** This is the second year that all AUA member universities hosted a joint education fair. This fair was held on the 8th and 9th October 2022 for students seeking post-graduation career opportunities. The highlight of the fair was a series of more than 30 live recruitment events delivered by provosts and admissions officers of the 15
universities, who introduced the latest admissions policy for international students, the application process, and the featured academic programs. Prof. Amit Agrawal, Dean International Relations shared information on various post-graduation options available at IIT Bombay for international students.

**AUA Youth Forum:** From 24th to 28th October, 2022, the Asian Universities Alliance Youth Forum (AUAYF) under the theme of “Building a Meta Silk Road: integration of Asian Cultures in the real and virtual universe”, was hosted by Nazarbayev University (NU) in Astana, Kazakhstan. The AUAYF focused on particular themes such as Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, Public Health, Asian Civilizations, and Future Habitats. The AUAYF included scientific workshops, seminars by NU professors and students from AUA member universities exchanged knowledge, experiences, and cultural values. Three students from IIT Bombay participated in AUAYF – Sumeet Kumar Mishra, Department of Electrical Engineering; Khyati Priya, Industrial Design Centre & Baksheesh Sachar, Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies.

**AUA Lecture Series 2022:** The Office of International Relations in coordination with the Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA) participated in the Lecture Series hosted by the AUA. The AUA Lecture Series was held in online mode and was themed on "Future of Energy". The aim of this lecture series was to invite experts from AUA member universities to introduce the energy strategies of their home countries, including scenario planning, and guide participants to rethink how to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. The lecture series was scheduled from October 2022 to December 2022, with two lectures per week. Each member university was invited to organize a lecture conducted by the faculty member of their university and Prof. Anand B. Rao, Head CTARA gave a lecture on “Energy Sustainability and Climate Goals” in this series from IIT Bombay on 17th November 2022. Also, 3 students from the Department of Energy Science and Engineering were nominated to participate in this series and attended the lectures conducted during this Lecture Series.

**AUA Academic Conference:** The Water Innovation Centre: Technology, Research & Education, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Science, IIT Bombay organized the 2nd International Conference on Water Technologies on 1st and 2nd December 2022 at IIT
Bombay in hybrid mode in association with AUA. The conference showcases 6 plenary sessions and 15 invited talks. There were about 120 contributory talks and about 36 posters in three parallel sessions. A total of around 200 participants from all parts of the country and more than 10 countries globally made this a successful event.

**Presidents' Forum of Southeast and South Asia and Taiwan Universities (SATU Presidents’ Forum)**

The objective of this forum is to strengthen academic cooperation among Taiwan and Southeast and South Asian countries. This forum provides a venue for academics to share their valuable experiences to improve higher education and international cooperation in the region. The Forum’s General Assembly (GA) and Steering Committee Meeting was held on 23rd and 24th November 2022 in Tainan, Taiwan. The GA served as a platform for members to exchange the newest ideas and experiences.

The theme this year was “Sustainable Alliances: Solutions for Strategic Partnerships in Light of Challenges and Uncertainties”. There were different sessions where member institutions shared their valuable insights in exploring different aspects of forming alliances to build a sustainable future. From IIT Bombay, Prof. Amit Agrawal, Dean International Relations, and Prof. Rajesh Zele, Department of Electrical Engineering participated.

**Heritage Network**

Heritage Network is an Indo-European network of leading technical higher education institutions involved in joint collaboration through their research and academic activities that address common priorities of national interest and the well-being of society. The General Assembly of Heritage Network was held on 21st and 22nd October 2022 at IIT Madras, Prof. Amit Agrawal, Dean International Relations participated. In this meeting, there were discussions among universities to increase internationalization by encouraging student mobility, promoting dual degree programs, and maintaining and sharing a database of expertise of Indian and European member universities to encourage collaborations.

**U7+**

U7+ was featured during an official side event at the “UNFCCC's COP27 climate summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on 17th November 2022. During the event titled “Universities as key solutions providers: leveraging our local and global networks for innovation", U7+ talked about global university networks. IIT Bombay contributed to the side event of U7+ at COP27. Two intensive case studies showcasing the contribution of big team of expert faculty and bright Ph.D. scholar of IIT Bombay was provided to U7+. Prof. Anand B. Rao (Climate studies and CTARA), Prof. Subimal Ghosh, (Convener, Interdisciplinary Program in Climate Studies) and Prof. K. Narayanan (IDP Climate Studies) are few among the several contributors in the mentioned case studies.

**BRICS Network University (BRICS NU)**

BRICS NU is a union of higher education institutions of the five BRICS member countries, formed with the objective of enhancing educational cooperation especially in the realm of research and innovation. Ms. Kameshwari Mangalampalli, Chief Operating Officer, IIT Bombay Research Park participated in BRICS Science and Technology Park Development Forum held on 23rd December 2022 hosted by Xiamen Torch Development Zone for High Technology Industries. The theme of the forum was “Joint Planning for a New Future of
BRICS Cooperation”. BRICS partners presented during the forum meeting, and international cooperation and innovation emphasizing on establishing factories and enterprises was prime point discussed in the meeting.

International Outreach Activities

ASEAN Awareness Day

On the occasion of the 55th ASEAN Day celebration, the Office of International Relations successfully organized its first offline post-pandemic pandemic on the 8th of August, 2022 at IIT Bombay. For the event Consul Generals of Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand addressed the faculty and students of IIT Bombay. During the session, the Consul Generals gave insights about ASEAN Day, the ASEAN agenda 2025, India–ASEAN collaborations and IIT Bombay-ASEAN universities associate. An interactive question-answer session where the Consul Generals addressed the queries of the audience was the highlight of the event. The session was beneficial for IITians as they gained clarity for future career opportunities in ASEAN countries and discussed future initiatives for the betterment the of ASEAN–IIT Bombay collaborations.

Staff Exchange

The Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) with Partner Countries, also known as Erasmus+ Global Mobility and promoted by the European Union, refers to the mobility of students, researchers, and staff between European higher education institutions and non-European (bi-lateral) partners is aimed at enhancing the bilateral cooperation between the two institutions. This staff exchange programme allows the staff to exchange and learn the best practices and implement them for the growth of the institute and self. Under Erasmus+ ICM, from IIT Bombay - Dr. K V Reghuthaman, Joint Registrar Human Resources and IoE Implementation Cell, Ms. Ruchika, Assistant Registrar Academic Office, and Mr. Prasanna Hate, Ms. Pooja Kushalkar, Ms. Josephine Pamela from Academic Office visited the Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany in October 2022. Also, Ms. Larissa Danschina, Program Manager, Student Mobility Division, TUM visited IIT Bombay in September 2022.
**NTU GEM Fair 2022**

IIT Bombay participated (virtual) in Universities Talk at NTU GEM Fair October, 2022. Dean International Relations, Prof. Amit Agrawal addressed the students of NTU Singapore. The information session highlighted the strength of IIT Bombay, including faculty, education, research and innovation, and student’s life at IIT Bombay. The session also provided clarity to students on different courses, research and fellowship opportunities offered at IIT Bombay.

**Visit to France**

Through a grant from the French Institute in India and the Embassy of France in India, Prof. J. Indu, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Bombay visited several research labs and universities in France between 23rd to 26th November 2022 to promote and seed new scientific collaborations with IIT Bombay. This included discussion and identification of potential areas for future collaborations overlooking the launch of the Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission.

**Participated in Universities Global Strategy Symposium, Japan**

Universities Global Strategy Symposium (UGSS 2022) seeks to become an interactive platform where university management professionals come together to discover tried-and-true solutions for their management challenges. IBJ Inc. Japan has been organizing this symposium and each year, over 400 institutions from Japanese universities and organizations participated in UGSS from 2007 to 2021. This year’s symposium was titled - Exploring “Future Investment” and “Securing Financial Resources” in Growth-Stage Universities and Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director, IIT Bombay was invited as a guest speaker for the symposium and he gave a talk on “Impact of IIT system and the path ahead”. This symposium was held on 9th December 2022 in virtual mode.

**Winter School 2022**

The Office of International Relations takes great pleasure to share that it has successfully completed the Winter School Program in December, 2022. The virtual programme offered four interesting courses on pressing topics namely: a) Durability and Sustainability of Construction Materials (by Prof. Swathy Manohar - Dept. of Civil Engg.), b) Science and Technology of CCUS and Hydrogen: Carbon Management and Sustainable Energy (by Prof. Vikram Vishal – Dept. of Earth Sciences & Prof. Arnab Dutta – Dept. of Chemistry), c) Understanding Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Policymaking in the context of Education: An interdisciplinary perspective (by Prof. Syaamantak Das, IDP in Educational Technology) and d) Systems Biology: A quantitative way of understanding biological regulations (by Prof. Sandip Kar – Dept. of Chemistry). Despite the vacation and exam season noteworthy registrations from around the globe for the program were recorded. A total count of 180 applications was received from different countries across the globe such as Brazil, Bhutan,
Bulgaria, China, Denmark, Germany, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Turkey, and Uzbekistan. Further rigorous screening of applications by the faculty members raised the standards of the program.

The advantages offered by the program to the participants were not limited to the study material distribution and developing an understanding of the courses but extended to one on one interactive and exciting sessions with expert IIT Bombay professors. Additionally, the program instructors conducted short projects and quizzes/exams for final evaluation thus making the lecture sessions more competitive and beneficial for the participants. We acknowledge the IIT Bombay professors for being a part of this program and conveying highly informative lecture sessions. Encouraging and appreciating feedback was received from the participants and they are looking forward to attending such programs organized by IIT Bombay in the future. Overall such programs present promising opportunities for sharing knowledge and ideas with the global student community. Our Office continues to improvise the program based on previous faculty and student feedback and will continue to offer Summer and Winter courses for the benefit of the students and bringing additional visibility to the institute. We are looking forward to offering exciting courses in the next Summer school program, 2023.

National Outreach Activities

IIT Bombay participated in IR Conclave

All IIT’s 4th International Relations (IR) Conclave was held on 30th September 2022 and 1st October 2022 and was hosted by IIT Gandhinagar. There were discussions regarding International Admission Strategies, International Student Exchanges, and Enhancing International Students’ Experience while they are at IIT. From IIT Bombay, Prof. Amit Agrawal, Dean International Relations and Ms. Sushma Japtap, Administrative Assistant, Office of Dean International Relations participated. During this conclave, Prof. Agrawal shared the evolving admission strategies practiced at IIT Bombay to increase international students on campus.
**Ladakh Government Sponsored Post Graduate Programme**

The engagement of the Office of Dean International relations is not only limited to foreign universities but also with Indian Universities and Indian government education and development initiatives. Currently IIT Bombay along with IIT Delhi and IIT Kanpur collaborated with Ladakh government under the scheme “Sponsored Post Graduation Programme”. The basic idea of this initiative is to offer entrepreneurship education and other development programme to students from Ladakh. Under this scheme three students for M.Tech and eight students for Internship have joined IIT Bombay. The institute looks forward to providing the best learning to the Ladakhi students at IIT Bombay.

**Workshop on National Credit Framework (NCrF)**

A half-day workshop on Draft National Credit Framework (NCF) was held at the IIT Bombay on 28th November 2022, to create awareness among the stakeholders. Hon’ble Minister of State for Education Smt. Annpurna Devi was the Chief Guest of this workshop and she emphasized that NEP 2020 envisages universalization of credit framework for removing barriers between knowledge, skills and employability, establishing a credit accumulation & transfer system for all kinds of learning for ensuring seamless mobility between learning and skilling pathways. To discuss the challenges faced during the effective implementation in future years and how to overcome these challenges after giving careful thought to the concerns raised by the participants, the workshop offered a panel discussion with experts from UGC, NCVET, MSDE, NIOS, AICTE who shared their precious viewpoints on the draft NCF and addressed queries raised by participants of the workshop.
Inbound Students
During the autumn semester 2022, IIT Bombay had 15 undergraduate and graduate students from foreign Universities/Institutes for a semester exchange along with 12 international students for project work. These students are majorly from European and Asian countries. Also, 24 students have joined the full-time Post graduation and Ph.D. programs and an orientation program was arranged for them on 19th August, 2022. This orientation program introduces them to IIT Bombay functioning, rules, and regulations. Currently, there are 77 international students doing their post-graduation and Ph.D. programs from 16 different countries at IIT Bombay. A dinner was hosted by the Office of International Relations on 23rd September 2022 for the International students and they spent a memorable evening, also joining for dinner were IIT Bombay Director, Deputy Directors, Deans and administrative staff supporting international students.

Outbound Students
In addition to the international students on our campus, we also had 20 students from IIT Bombay going for semester exchange to foreign universities like ETH Zurich, Aalto University, Technical University of Denmark, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, University of Geneva, Monash University, Sciences Po, Universite de Strasbourg, Loughborough University, Politecnico di Milano and University of Bologna. These exchange programs provide students with an experience of a different education system and practices that can be of great advantage. It also enhances future employability and academic success, allowing them to build up a network of valuable contacts, broaden their horizons, and develop an entire range of new soft skills.

Under a project promoted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan (MEXT), for short-term research experience, 3 students from IIT Bombay visited Hokkaido University (under International Research Skills Program for Developing Sustainable Transportation System and Infrastructure (STSI)). This program is jointly conducted by Hokkaido University, IIT Bombay, IIT Hyderabad, and IIT Madras.

Student Experiences
Oceane Daeron, IMT Atlantique, France - Semester Exchange student at IIT Bombay
Hello! My name is Oceane, I'm from France and I studied one semester in IITB as an exchange student. This semester went by very quickly and it was an extremely rich experience. The school did a lot to welcome me properly, I'm very grateful because India is very different from my country. Then, students were really happy to make me discover
Mumbai and their culture in general. For example, during the festival of Ganesh Chaturthi, with some friends we went in South Mumbai and we saw the tallest Ganesh idol at Khetwadi. Courses in IITB were also very interesting, teachers are involved and clear. To put it in a nutshell, I'm very happy to have been able to study in IITB and I'm very grateful for my Indian friends.

Asmelash Haftu, International Student at Dept. of Aerospace Engineering, IIT Bombay

I am Asmelash Haftu from Ethiopia. Research Scholar in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at IIT Bombay, India. I have been here for a very long time, IIT Bombay is one of the finest institutes with great minds. It has the best quality professors dedicated to teaching, research, and innovation. India is a colorful country with awesome people and beautiful culture. You can find many helping hands from professors to students. I managed to travel to some parts and learned about the country's endless beauty and natural gifts. At IIT Bombay, you are a busy bee in the academic environment with intense lectures, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and presentations coming over and over even for only a single subject. You learn to improve your potential to handle a huge amount of work. It is also amazing to see all kinds of student activities, and cultural activities which are truly impressive. Besides, the increasing number of international students makes it a more beautiful place to interact with people from different backgrounds and cultures. Apart from the challenges of research and covid-19, I was faced with indescribable difficult situations during my stay. IITB was like a home place for me to exist in such circumstances. I really couldn't imagine a better place and I can't be thankful enough for all the blessings and priceless circumstances I experienced.

Vidyut Balaji, IIT Bombay student – Semester Exchange at KAIST, South Korea

During the fall semester of my fourth year as a Dual Degree Student, I decided to participate in a student exchange program in South Korea. As a student of Mechanical Engineering, I was eager to immerse myself in the unique culture and business environment of one of the worlds most technologically advanced and economically dynamic countries. I have always been interested in learning more about the advanced technologies developed in South Korea. So, when the opportunity to go on a semester exchange program in South Korea presented itself, I jumped at the chance. Given that I had a summer internship in Japan at Hokkaido University for three months, immediately followed by this exchange for four months, I had the exciting opportunity to experience two major Eastern Asian cultures. One of the best experiences I had during my exchange was learning about Korean culture first-hand. From trying new foods like kimchi and bibimbap to learning about traditional customs like bowing...
and using formal honorifics, I was constantly challenged and enriched by my interactions with the local people. The program was based at KAIST University, Daejeon, and included courses in a wide range of topics related to my field of study, including robotics and automation, mechatronics, and manufacturing. The classes were challenging, but the professors and students were incredibly supportive and knowledgeable. They provided detailed explanations and demonstrations of the technologies and techniques being studied, and I was able to deepen my understanding of the subject matter. The highlight of my academic experience was the research project I was working on in the humanoid robotics laboratory under the guidance of a professor and other graduate students. The project was focused on developing a quadra-ped robot that could traverse various environments with robustness. It was an intense, challenging, and enriching experience. I could apply what I had learned in the classroom to a real-world problem, and I gained valuable hands-on experience in the field of robotics. Living in a foreign country also brought its own set of challenges. As an exchange student, I had to learn how to navigate a new city, make new friends, and adapt to living in a different culture with a different language. But these challenges ultimately made me more independent, adaptable, and open-minded. In conclusion, the experience of studying abroad in Korea was a truly transformative one for me. It not only expanded my academic and professional horizons, but also allowed me to grow as an individual and develop cross-cultural understanding and communication skills.

Vidyut Balaji

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