



# Newsletter

*International Relations, IIT Bombay*

*Issue: January - June, 2018*

## *Word from Dean - International Relations*



Prof. Swati Patankar,  
Dean - International Relations

Greetings from the IR office! When I joined six months ago, I had a very foggy idea about what the IR office actually does. Now I know. In this newsletter the IR office is sharing the activities that have direct benefit to faculty, students and staff for our academics. Do take a look at all the events that have taken place in past six months and keep an eye out for the travel opportunities that could be availed as a result. We will be contacting you in the future to see how these international engagements can be taken forward together. Hoping to hear back with interest from you as you are the stakeholders for whom we are doing these activities!

## *New Partnerships*

IIT Bombay has official agreements with many universities which enables smooth exchange of students and faculty and fosters research collaborations. The signing of these MOUs has further increased the horizon of our students to visit foreign universities for semester exchange. Some MOUs also include faculty and research scholar travel. IIT Bombay has signed MOUs with the following universities across the globe in past six months:

- The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Italy
- Hiroshima University, Japan
- Hokkaido University, Japan
- Indiana University, USA
- Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taiwan
- Kumamoto University, Japan
- Fundacion Universidad de las Americas, Puebla (UDLAP), Mexico
- Shamoon College of Engineering, Israel
- The University of Baghdad
- University of Newcastle, Australia
- University of Toronto, Canada



MOU signing - Director, IIT Bombay and President, Interdisciplinary Centre, Herzliya, Israel

- City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Tel Aviv University, Israel
- Ecole Normale Supérieure Paris – Saclay, France
- University of Agder, Norway
- University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
- University of Regensburg, Germany
- The Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University, Japan
- School of Business and Economics, Loughborough University, UK
- Interdisciplinary Centre, Herzliya, Israel
- University of North Texas, USA

## *International Visitors*

### ***January, 2018***

- Prof. Hiroshi Iwai, Vice Dean, International College of Semiconductor Technology from National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan visited on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.
- Swedish delegation comprising of Mr. Tom Johnstone, Chairman; Mr. Mats Agervi, CEO from Combient and Mr. Hakan Kingstedt from Sweden - India Business Council visited on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.
- Prof. E. Daniel Hirleman, Chief Corporate and Global Partnership and Mr. Heidi Arola, Managing Director Global Partnerships from Prudue University, USA visited on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.

### ***February, 2018***

- German delegation comprising of Dr. Johannes Dingler, Director International Office, Universitat Konstanz; Prof. Andreas Nauerz, Deputy Head, Hochschule Mannheim; Dr. Peter Fischer, Group Leader, Fraunhofer and Ms. Sarah Mush, Regional Manager, Baden-Wurttemberg International visited on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2018.
- Chancellor Kumble R. Subbaswamy, Mr. Chris Crooker, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development, Prof. John Klier, Head Chemical Engineering, Prof. Dave Reckhow, Head Mechanical & Civil Engineering, Prof. Om Parkash Dhankher, Stockbridge School of Agriculture, Dr. Kalpen Trivedi, Associate Provost for International Programs from University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA visited on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.
- Carolyn Russell, Director and Lindsay Neilson, Associate Director from University of Victoria, Canada visited on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018.
- Prof. Prof. Joseph Incandela, Vice Chancellor for Research and Prof. Tim Sherwood, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research from UC Santa Barbara, USA visited on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2018.

### ***March, 2018***

- Dr. Watanabe Satoshi, Director, and Prof. Furuichi Yumiko, Associate Professor from The University of Tokyo, Japan visited on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018.
- Vice President Research & International, Dr. Joy Johnson, Prof. Ali Dastmalchian, Dean of Business, Prof. Ian Hand, Executive Director (Venture Labs), Prof. Faisal Beg, Associate Dean Faculty of Applied Sciences and Yusuf Varachia, Director International Strategic Initiatives from Simon Fraser University, Canada visited on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.
- Rector of University of Agder, Norway and Prof. Frank Reichert and the team visited on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018.

- Dr. Georgina Lopez, Director National Autonomus University of Mexico visited on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

#### ***April, 2018***

- Mr. Ade Sukendar, Consul General and Ms. Adini Fitriiah, Vice Consul from Consulate General of The Republic of Indonesia visited on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.
- Prof. Peter Hutchings, Dean and Provost, Dr. Asha Chand, Associate Dean International and Ms. E Marisa Furno, Asso. Director, International Partnerships from Western Sydney University, Australia visited on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.
- Prof. Suresh Bhargava, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor (India) for the College of Science, Engineering and Health & Director of the Centre for Advanced Materials and Industrial Chemistry (CAMIC), RMIT, Australia visited on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

#### ***May, 2018***

- Mr. Adrian Gutierrez, Sci. and Tech. Counsellor from Embassy of Spain, New Delhi visited on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018.
- Prof. Mary-Ann Mycek, Associate Dean and Ms. Christine Muchanic, Director - International Relations from University of Michigan, USA visited on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2018.
- Executive Vice Provost, for International Initiatives, Prof. Krishnaswami (Hari) Srihari from Binghamton University, USA visited us on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.
- Dr. Matthias Kiesselbach, Director, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) India visited on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2018
- Mr. Peter Coleman, Trade Commissioner (Austrade) in Mumbai visited us on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.
- Dr. Sandrine Maximilien, Attachée for Academic, Scientific & Technological Cooperation at the French Embassy in India / French Institute in India (IFI) with her colleagues from Campus France and the Director of Alliance Française de Bombay visited on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.

#### ***June, 2018***

- Dr. Matt Durnin, Head of Research and Consultancy for International Education Services & Ms. Suchita Gokarn, Asst. Director, Education Services for India from British Council visited us on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.
- Dr. Seung Cheol, Director and Ms. Malini Shridhar, Head - Admin & External Affairs from Indo-Korea Science and Technology Centre, Bangalore which is affiliated branch off Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Korea visited us on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.
- Dr. Stephen Williams, Director and Dr. Clare Newstead, International Manager from Nottingham Trent University, UK visited us on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.
- Dr. Maryam Qudrat, Adviser to Ministry of Higher Education in Afghanistan and faculty at California State University-Long Beach visited on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.

### ***Workshops***

International Relations Office at IIT Bombay along with signing the new agreements also conducts research workshops with various institutes / organizations across the globe. The research workshops are the measures to strengthen the collaboration between the two institutes / organizations. The main motive of these research workshops is to identify collaborators with common research interests and take ahead the collaboration.

The following are the joint research workshops conducted in the last six months:



IIT Bombay & Indo-Korea Science and Technology (IKST) Center, Bengaluru at IIT Bombay



IIT Bombay & Technical University Braunschweig, Germany at IIT Bombay



IIT Bombay & Deakin University, Australia at IIT Bombay



IIT Bombay & Australian National University, Australia at IIT Bombay



IIT Bombay & Western Sydney University (WSU), Australia at WSU, Australia



IIT Bombay & National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan at IIT Bombay

## Visiting Contingents

**Academic:** A group of 24 graduating engineers from Polytechnique Montreal, Canada (called “Poly-Monde”), was on a study tour in India during the month of May 2018. They visited Centre of Studies in Resource Engineering (CSRE) and Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA) on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 wherein they interacted with the faculty members and Ph.D students. The discussion with CSRE was mainly on agro-informatics and how it can improve growing and harvesting methods whereas the discussion with CTARA was on water management, the effect of climate changes and how to manage resources to ensure a good crop production.

The students had fruitful experience interacting with both the departments and were excited about exploring further their visit in India.

**Corporate:** A high level corporate delegation from the reputed Benteler Group, Germany comprising 30 of their top CEOs, through Indo-German Chamber of Commerce visited IIT Bombay on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 to get an insight on the activities at IIT Bombay. They initially interacted with the Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Aerospace Engineering (AE) and Metallurgical Engg. & Materials Science (MEMS) departments wherein they were given the overview of the department, information on curriculum and pedagogy used by the departments. Besides this, they were also briefed on the functioning of International Relations Office and Placement Cell followed by a visit to the NCAIR lab of Mechanical Engineering (ME) department. The CEOs were delighted to see the facilities available at IIT Bombay.



Polytechnic Montreal students group



Benteler corporate group

### ***International Visits by IIT Bombay Professors, Staff & Students***

**Visit to Japan:** In January 2018, Prof. Amitava De, Dean (Academic Programmes) and Mr. Arnab Das, Executive Officer from the Office of International Relations visited Hokkaido University for the steering committee meeting of International Research Skills Program for Developing Sustainable Transportation System and Infrastructure Program (STSI Program). The STSI Program is a part of Re-Inventing Japan project between Hokkaido University and IIT Bombay, IIT Madras and IIT Hyderabad funded by Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for a period of five years (2017-2022). The program is designed to contribute to the development of human resources capable of playing roles in the promotion of teamwork research between Japan and India for developing sustainable transportation system and infrastructure. Also in January 2018, Prof. Swati Patankar Dean (International Relations) and Prof. Avinash Mahajan, Associate Dean (Academic Programmes) visited Hiroshima University for a meeting to chart out the joint activities of the International Linkage Degree Program (ILDG). The exchange activities for both Japanese collaborations are in full swing.

**Visit to Dubai:** IIT Bombay, for the first time, participated in the Gulf Education And Training Exhibition (GETEX) in Dubai, UAE organised by EdCIL (Educational Consultants of India) under the 'Study in India' initiative by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India during April 12-14, 2018. Prof. P Sunthar from Chemical Engineering Dept. and Mr. Arnab Das from Office of International Relations represented IIT Bombay during GETEX. This initiative aims to make India a preferred education hub for students from across the globe, by

elevating its position in the global educational landscape. The exhibition attracted around 35,000 local and expatriate students who are at the threshold of college life and actively looking for higher education, professional development and training options. Around 30-35 leading foreign universities participated in the exhibition.



Visit to Japan



Visit to Dubai

**Visit to Australia:** A contingent comprising of Prof. Bhaskaran Muralidharan (Electrical Engineering), Prof. Sumit Saxena (Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science), Prof. Anindya Datta (Chemistry), Prof. Balasubramaniam Kavaipatti (Earth Sciences and Engineering), Prof. Sunita Srivastava (Physics) and Prof. Shobha Shukla (Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science) visited Australia at the end of April & beginning of May, 2018. The motive of the visit was to attend the joint workshop between IIT Bombay and University of Sydney. During the workshop many joint research projects were discussed. The team also visited the University of Newcastle and the University of New South Wales. The positive feedback from both universities, led to a suggestion to sign an MOU with UNSW also. Overall the visit to Australia was very fruitful with potential collaborations and an advice of conducting more workshops to sustain these collaborations.

**Visit to Turkey:** IIT Bombay and Koc University, Turkey received a mobility grant for the year 2017-18 under the Erasmus+ ICM project granted by European Commission and Turkish National Agency. Mr. Arnab Das, Executive Officer, Office of International Relations and coordinator of the Erasmus+ projects visited Koc University for the International Staff Week and Study Abroad Fair from May 7 - 11, 2018. The purpose of the visit was to increase research and academic collaborations and he met several researchers to discuss scope and areas of joint research projects. Further, he also met staff members managing Erasmus+ projects at Koc University and learned the structure and the work methods in their International Office and the role it plays in the internationalization policies at Koc University. There are many opportunities for IIT Bombay staff to travel as part of Erasmus+ projects.



Visit to Australia



Visit to Turkey

**Visit to Israel:** A team comprising of Prof. Swati Patankar, Dean (International Relations), Prof. Rahul Purwar (Biosciences and Bioengineering), Prof. K V Venkatesh (Chemical Engineering), Prof. Suvarn Kulkarni (Chemistry) along with Prof. Devang Khakhar, Director visited Israel during the month of May, 2018. The team spent two days exploring possibilities of collaborations in the areas of cyber security, drug discovery, brain sciences and smart cities at Tel Aviv University with whom IIT Bombay had recently signed the MOU. The team visited Technion - Israel Institute of Technology & Weizmann Institute of Science and the companies Orgenesis and Taro Pharma. The MOU signing with Interdisciplinary Centre, Herzliya, Israel was in process which was sealed then with signatures by the leaders of both the institutes. The team also visited Ben Gurion University where, besides research collaborations, was discussed the likelihood to avail the Indo-Israel government initiative of 100 scholarships for Indian Ph.Ds and postdocs.

**DAAD program in India & Germany:** Mr. Arnab Das, Executive Officer from the office of IR visited Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Mangalore, India in the month of March 2018 for the regional workshop of “Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies (DIES) - training course on Management of Internationalisation”. He was selected by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to undertake the course of 12 months which includes two workshops in Germany and a regional workshop in India. The training course on Internationalisation is jointly organised by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH) and the German Rectors’ Conference (HRK).



Visit to Israel



Visit to Manipal, India as a part of one of the three workshops conducted by DAAD, Germany

**Visit to Chicago:** IIT Bombay was invited to nominate a student to participate in the Chicago Forum on Global Cities held in June, 2018 in Chicago and Mr. Ravindra Dhiman from Centre for Urban Science and Engineering was selected. Here is his experience “This exposure introduced me to some possible collaborations across the globe related to my research interest. There were few creative ice breaking practical exercises for Student Global Delegation namely Bingo, Scavenger Hunt in Chicago City in which our team emerged as the winner and Marshmallow Challenge. A choice based group of curated workshops was organized to discuss key global cities issues with Chicago based practitioners and policymakers where I participated in the workshop titled "Inclusive Development of Urban Waterways" and it was beneficial for me as I interacted personally with some of the legendary experts in the similar domain. It was a great experience to listen to the debates among different think-tanks and Mayors of various global cities e.g. Mayor of London, Zurich, New York,

Chicago, Bristol, Accra, Warsaw, Austin, Montreal, Los Angeles and City of San Juan, interviewed by Editors of Financial Times Flash Talks in the event were mesmerizing and worthy. There were informal discussions including private discussion with key members of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Some of the events were directly focused on networking among associated stakeholders. The entire event was live telecasted and same is available on official youtube channel of Chicago Council. Hospitality was amazing and organizers have taken care of comfortable stay and local travels. Personally, I found this participation exciting and advantageous because of exposure in the various arrays of networking, education, research, and knowledge.”

**Visit to London:** IIT Bombay was invited to participate in the ICL - TUM Global Fellows Programme: Cities of the Future held in June, 2018 in London and Mr. Vinay Yadav from Centre from Environmental Science and Engineering was selected. Here is his experience “I attended Imperial - TUM Global Fellows Programme 2018 held at Velodrome, Olympic Park, London from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 as IIT Bombay nominee. This programme attracted researchers from around the world to debate the future challenges faced by urban centers. The researchers discussed about the development of future cities with improved quality of life for the urban population. One of the aim for this programme is to help participants create new networks and learn about other research institutions and develop their ability to collaborate with international researchers and interdisciplinary teams. I find this programme as a great opportunity to build networks and partnerships and I hope it will help my research in the long term.”



IIT Bombay Student at Chicago Forum, Chicago



IIT Bombay Student at ICL-TUM Global Fellows Programme

## *International Students*

During the spring semester (2017-18), IIT Bombay had 21 undergraduate students from foreign universities for semester exchange. It started with the orientation program arranged for these students to introduce them to IIT Bombay. Later during the semester interactive sessions were conducted with these students to get an overview of the experiences they had during their study and stay at IIT Bombay. Also the campus had 12 international undergraduate students for semester project work. There are 65 international post graduate students doing their post graduation and Ph.D program. A get together over dinner was arranged for the international post graduate students who will be graduating in the batch of 2017-18. In addition to international students on our campus we also had 18 students from IIT Bombay going for semester exchange to foreign universities like National University of Singapore, Technical University of Denmark, Telecom Ecole De Management France and many others.





International Students Dinner Get Together

## *Student Experiences*

**Nora Emmermann** from Technical University of Munich, Germany - Exchange student @ Department of Mathematics, IIT Bombay

"Spending a year at IIT Bombay was a unique experience. I was openly welcomed by all the people here. Be it, staff or students. For me, this institute was not only a safe, calm and green place to live and study. But as it is home to students from all over India it was also a valuable opportunity to get to know a lot about all the different cultures and traditions within this huge country. I am thankful for all the memories I made here."



**Qiu-Jue Zhang** from National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan - Exchange student @ Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Bombay

"It is a cool and amazing experience to be an exchange student in IIT Bombay and in India. The diversity of India gives me a big lesson which let me be more tolerant to various lifestyles and religions. I am grateful that professors and students are so patient and open-minded to answer my countless questions, explain me the phenomenon and academic theories about India and encourage me to try my best. I also feel lucky that I made many friends who often give me a helping hand, some of them are from Middle East and really expand my horizon to see the world. What's more, IIT students' confidence and uniqueness impressed me a lot, I hope I could be more brave and confident like them to speak out and express my ideas in English and don't care about the accent whether is so called standard or not. Life here let me be more adaptive to different kinds of situation."



**Akshay Raut** from Mechanical Engineering Department, IIT Bombay as Exchange Student @ DTU, Denmark

"Semester exchange in Denmark was one of the best experiences of my engineering years. Thanks to IITB for sending me there with the much prestige Erasmus scholarship. One can get an unusual insight into the academics, make plenty of new friends and learn about the diversity of cultures from all around the world during the exchange program. A semester exchange in Europe will need a Schengen visa which will give you the freedom to travel to 20+ countries. If you get a chance to go on an exchange program, go for it. You won't regret it. "



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