

Newsletter



International Relations

January to December 2019

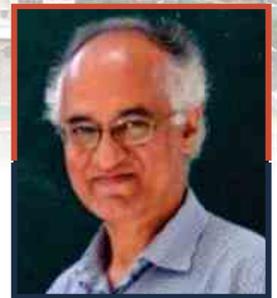
Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

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Director's Message

Timothy A. Gonsalves
Director, IIT Mandi



In today's Global Village, academic excellence requires a high degree of internationalisation. Hence, internationalisation has been an important component in IIT Mandi's strategy since inception. It has several facets: foreign faculty and students on our campus, our students and faculty visiting abroad, and collaborative research, among others.

The Office of International Relations has worked towards this strategy over the years. Since 2011, we have had extensive exchange visits with the TU9 in Germany. Annually since 2013, about 25 students plus 2 faculty from WPI in the US visit IIT Mandi for ISTP. Recently we have started to enrol students from SAARC and African countries in PG programmes. Every year dozens of our students and faculty go on exchange visits and participate in conferences abroad.

I am pleased that the Dean and his staff have released the first issue of the International Relations Newsletter. This will bring a focus to the globalisation of IIT Mandi, and will provide valuable information for prospective exchange visitors.



Dean's Message

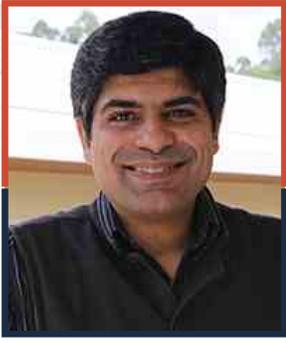
Dr. Venkata Krishnan
Dean (SRIC & IR)

I am very pleased to present to you all the first International Relations Newsletter. Although the contents of this newsletter pertains mainly to the activities of the year 2019, our International Relations Office has been coordinating several activities since the inception of our institute. As one can evidence from this newsletter, many activities of significance that happened in the year 2019, which includes student exchanges, faculty visits, delegations to academic institutions abroad, international conferences, to name a few.

Being an academic institution, our main focus is on the students. In this regard, it is noteworthy to mention that there has been an increase in the number of international students visiting IIT Mandi and also the students of IIT Mandi visiting abroad. This aspect of internationalization has been crucial for the overall development of young minds, especially in their formative years. Another important aspect is promoting the interaction between foreign faculty members and IIT Mandi community at large. Several foreign faculty members had visited us in 2019 to teach courses to students, to participate in conferences, to collaborate with our faculty colleagues and had good interactions both scientifically and non-scientifically. In addition, several of our research scholars and faculty colleagues have visited abroad for academic purposes and had forged strong ties with institutions abroad, which have matured into MoUs between the institutions. Furthermore, the increase in the number of full-time scholars from abroad, mainly from SAARC and African countries, in our academic degree programs is also noteworthy to mention.

Overall, IIT Mandi has come a long way in taking our International Relations to new heights. All these are mainly due to the efforts of our dynamic Associate Dean of International Relations, Dr. Varun Dutt, in addition to our faculty and staff colleagues. Especially, I would also like to gratefully acknowledge the services rendered of our staffs in the everyday management of our International Relations Office and also for their respective contributions in the successful release of this first issue of our International Relations Newsletter.

Thanks very much.



Associate Dean's Message

Dr. Varun Dutt

Associate Dean (IR)

It gives me immense pleasure to see our international relations (IR) section blossom over the past few years. I still remember the first sparks igniting the IR engines: On 11th February 2013, Vishal Raheja and Tushar Dublish became the first two students from our Institute to visit BTH, Sweden, for semester exchange. These students not only did a successful semester abroad but also showed how it was possible to execute exchange with funding – both students were engaged in a semester-long internship at Ericsson, Sweden. It is delightful to note that now almost 15-20 students go yearly for semester exchange to our different MoU partners.

While it is important to send students for international exposure, it is more important to attract international students to our campus. I am happy to note that the number of incoming international students to our campus has been steadily on the increase, and they currently surpass the outgoing numbers by more than double. The year 2019 saw an all-time high of 40 international students coming to our campus. The recent focused initiative of attracting international students from SAARC and African nations has also helped increase the global diversity on our campus. Currently, we have about 13 students from neighboring countries pursuing different graduate degrees at our Institute. This number is likely to grow steadily in 2020. I am also happy to report that there has been a steady increase in the number of international faculty researchers on campus. With the advent of schemes like SPARC, this number is also likely to grow over time.

Our Institute has made steady progress in its efforts to boost student and faculty exchange under the sincere efforts of our IR section, Dean of International Relations, and our Director. I would love to see the IR section scale newer heights of achievements with new MoUs and increasing international diversity on our campus in 2020. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our IR staff for capturing our IR efforts to date in this first newsletter.

Jai Hind!

Introduction

Since its very inception, IIT Mandi has been striving to develop itself into an institution of excellence in education and research. While striving for excellence through pursuing highest standards in engineering and technology, the contemporary and future needs of India is always kept in mind. With innovations in both its curriculum and research, the Institute intends to rapidly gain reputation globally.

In order to fulfill its vision to become a leading player globally in the arena of science and technology education and research, IIT Mandi has keen interest in internationalization. A highly focused approach has been adopted for the internationalization by embarking on a strategic partnership with the Universities abroad and specially with TU9 Universities in Germany. These partnerships have resulted in long-term research collaborations between the faculty of IIT Mandi and the Universities abroad for academic cooperation such as exchange of students and faculty.

Vision

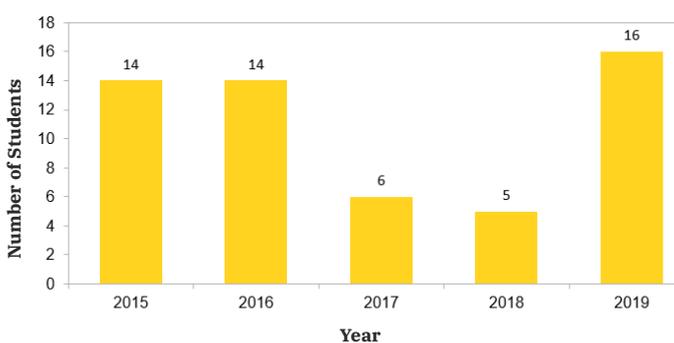
- ✦ To promote student exchanges with international university and institutes
- ✦ To encourage international students to pursue graduate and undergraduate education from IIT Mandi.
- ✦ To promote faculty exchanges, research and teaching collaborations with international university and institutes.

Significant Achievements

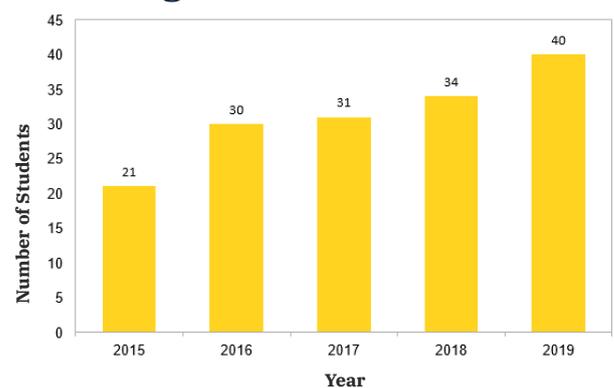
Over the past several years, IR activities have flourished and resulted in significant achievements through, leadership roles and successful in establishing strong international relations. A glimpse of our achievements is presented here:

Year wise numbers of outgoing and incoming students (includes exchange, internship & registered for a degree) and faculty for various purposes is given below:

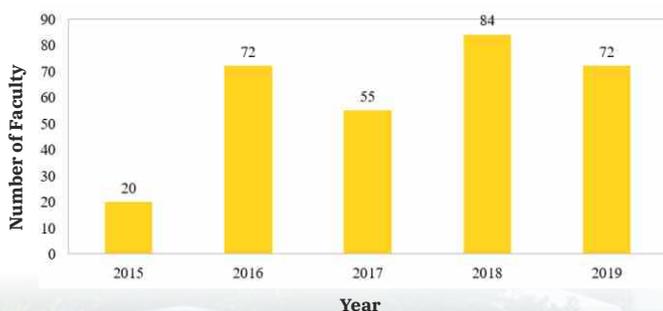
Outgoing Students



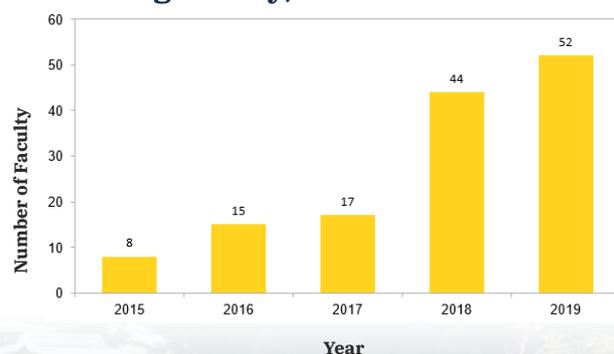
Incoming Students



Outgoing Faculty



Incoming faculty/Researchers



Renewal of Collaborations

Memorandum Of Understanding with EdCIL India, Study in India initiative was renewed till July 2019. MOU between IIT Mandi and RWTH Aachen, Germany was renewed for another five years in June 2019. MOU with TU9 is renewed in December 2019.

International faculty visits at IIT Mandi

We have been successful in attracting foreign faculty to visit this remote place through funded schemes and otherwise for developing collaborative research as well as teaching and delivering talks. Given are the details of faculty:

- Dr. Heike Mock & Ms. Shikha Sinha, **DAAD**
- Dr. Eike F Schwier, **Hiroshima University, Japan**
- Dr. Y Dittrich, **IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark**
- Prof. M Sinapius & Prof. Naser Al Natsheh, **Technical University of Braunschweig**
- Dr. Marieke V Vugt, **University of Groningen, the Netherlands**
- Dr. Terrence Stewart, **University of Waterloo, Canada**
- Prof. Balthasar Novak, **University of Stuttgart, Germany**
- Dr. Ingrid Shockey & Dr. Gbetonmasse Somasse & Mr. Gary Collins, **Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA**
- Mr. Koji Iwamoto, **Tohichi Printing Tokyo, Japan**
- Prof. George Verghese, **MIT, Cambridge, USA**
- Dr. Manfred Buchroithner, **TU Dresden, Germany**
- Dr. Jung R Kim, **University of Seoul, Korea**
- Dr. Sushil Mittal, **James Madison University, Virginia, USA**
- Prof. Balthasar Novak, **University of Stuttgart, Germany**
- Dr. Ataur R Khan, Mr. M Hasan & Mr. Mohammad A Hossain, **Southern University, Bangladesh**
- Prof. Pramod P Khargonekar, **University of California, IRVINE, CA USA**
- Dr. Stephan Maes, **TU Dresden, Germany**
- Mr. K Santhirasekaram, Mr. V N G R Mudiyansele & Dr. M Vithanage, **University of Sri Jeyawardenepura, Sri Lanka**
- Prof. Vikas Kumar Singh Thakur, **NTNU Norway**
- Dr. Jiri Simunk, **University of California, USA**
- Dr. Martin Wieland, **(ICOLD) Poyry Switzerland Ltd. Zurich, Switzerland**
- Mr. Casper W Andersen & Mr. A Yakutovich, **EPLF, Switzerland**
- Dr. Arie Walter Moran, **University of Haifa, Israel**
- Dr. Sergei Obiedkov & Dr. Aleksey Buzmakov, **National Research University-(HSE - Moscow Campus & Perm Campus), Russia**
- Dr. Mehran Khoshbakhsh Foumani & Prof. UWE Beifuss, **University of Hohenheim, Germany**
- Dr. Indira Mysorekar Mills, **Washington University in St. Louis, USA**
- Mr. Hannies Simon Funk & Mr. David Weibhaupt, **University of Stuttgart, Germany**
- Dr. David J Lange & Dr. Cristian H M Zedan, **University of Queensland,**
- Dr. Tomonori Yamada, **The University of Tokyo, Japan**
- Prof. Lam N T Kiu, Prof. Nelson Lam & Mr. Rohit Tiwari, **University of Melbourne, Australia**
- Prof. Perumal Nithiarasu, **Swansea University, UK**
- Prof. Gangadhara Prusty, **University of New South Wales, Australia**
- Prof. Gui R Liu, **University of Cincinnati, USA**
- Prof. Venkatesh Kodur, **Michigan State University, USA**
- Mr. Avirup Sarkar, Mr. Saikat Bagchi & Mr. Bikram K Patra, **Concordia University, Montreal, Canada**
- Sourav Chandra, **Technical University of Munich, Germany**

International Conference on Differential Equations and Control Problems: Modeling, Analysis and Computations (ICDECP19)

(17th to 19th June '19)

The International Conference on Differential Equations and Control Problems - Modelling, Analysis and Computations (ICDECP19) was an interdisciplinary combined event. This event provided a common forum where young applied mathematicians and engineers learnt mathematics for Differential Equations and Control Problems, and further they exchanged research ideas involving theoretical and applied developments in the discussed themes. Conference was attended by a large number of participants from IITs, TIFR, universities, and abroad.



7th International Congress on Computational Mechanics and Simulation, ICCMS 2019

11th to 13th December '19

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi) organized the 7th International Congress on Computational Mechanics and Simulations (ICCMS 2019) from 11th to 13th December 2019. Under the auspices of the Indian Association for Computational Mechanics (IndACM), International Congress on Computational Mechanics and Simulation (ICCMS) is organized biennially. The 7th edition of ICCMS at IIT Mandi, hosted 15 plenary speakers, 9 keynote speakers, and 11 invited speakers from, Australia, Japan, India, UK, and the USA.



Foreign students activities

• ISTP Open House (27th April '19)

The Interactive Socio-Technical Practicum (ISTP) course of IIT Mandi culminated in an Open House on 27th April 2019. IIT Mandi students and 25 students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts participated under the mentorship of IIT Mandi faculty and 2 WPI faculty mentors.



International Students studying at IIT Mandi

Through our concerted efforts, we could attract substantial number of foreign students visiting us for semester exchange, research, internships and full time degree programs at IIT Mandi campus from reputed international Universities.

- Thirteen students joined IIT Mandi for full-time Masters and Ph.D. programs from Nepal and Bangladesh in 2018 and 2019. Four students are from Bangladesh and nine are from Nepal
- Four students visited IIT Mandi for internship and under semester exchange program in 2019 from Germany
- Two students visited IIT Mandi for internship and research work from Bhutan and Bangladesh
- Twenty five students visited IIT Mandi for ISTP project from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA

IIT Mandi students visiting International Universities

- Four students visited TU Munich, Germany from September 2019 to February 2020
- Four students visited RWTH Aachen, Germany from September 2019 to February 2020
- Two students visited University of Stuttgart, Germany from September 2019 to February 2020
- Three M. Tech students visited Universities at Germany under DAAD fellowship from September 2019 to March 2020
- Three students visited Aalto University, Finland from August 2019 to January 2020

IIT Mandi faculty visiting International Universities

Several IIT Mandi faculty members visited institutions in Sweden, Germany, UK, Italy, Japan, Nepal, USA, Russia, Spain, Greece, Jerusalem, Kenya and Singapore between January and June 2019 for attending conferences and furthering industry and academic collaborations. The visits included 8 faculty members from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; 24 faculty members from the School of Computing and Electrical Engineering; 20 faculty members from the School of Basic Sciences; and, 20 faculty members from the School of Engineering.



Director, IIT Mandi headed a faculty delegation to Kenya in May 2019 and Ethiopia in October 2019 for attracting students to pursue higher education



IIT Mandi delegation visited Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Nepal to attract students to pursue higher education

Additionally, faculty from IIT Mandi visited Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan in 2017 and 2018 to attract students to pursue full-time graduate education at the institute.

15 Mobility Fellowships – MBF/DAAD/MHRD funded were awarded between IIT Mandi and Tu9 which includes

- **Exchange visits up to 3 months**
- **Joint research, publications and 2 funded projects**
- **One workshop each in Germany & India (20+ workshops)**
- **Ten short visits (up to 2 weeks) funded by IIT Mandi/MHRD**

Under the SPAARC scheme we succeeded in getting sanction of nine projects and three fresh proposals were submitted. This will increase the visits of foreign faculty and scholars, further, which will enhance the productive academic and research collaborations.

Achievements in building International Relations

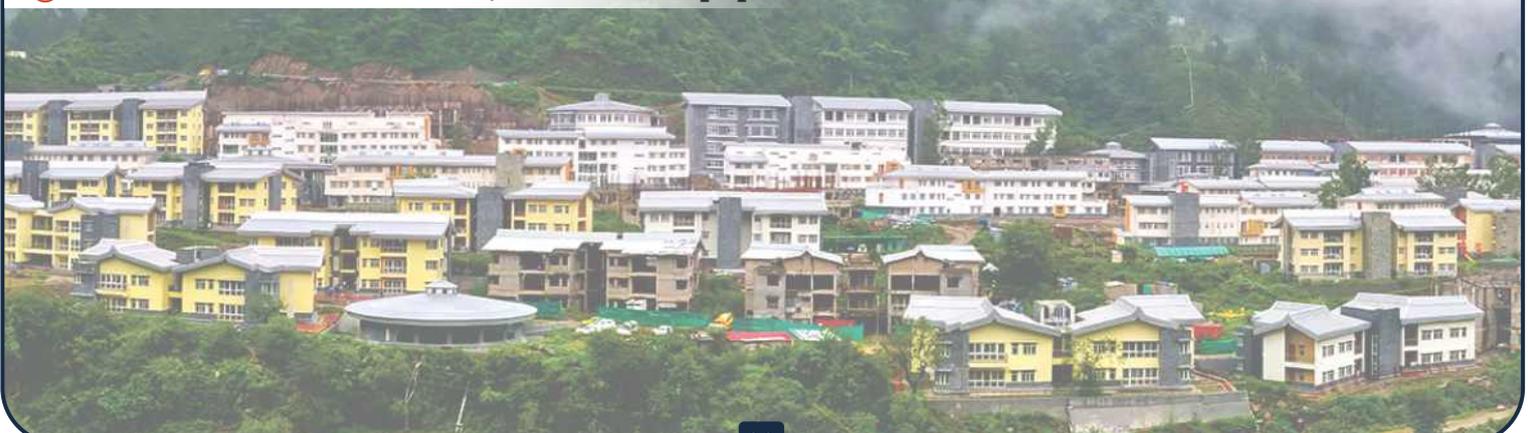
Internationalization of the Institute by building partnership with peers across the globe has been a clear strategy of the Institute to achieve academic excellence. This strategy has paid off well as we have made significant achievements in this direction. Some of the glimpses are highlighted here:

- IIT Mandi has been appointed as Nodal Institute to develop a wider network between all the 23 IITs and the Tu9.
- Strong partnership with the TU9 Universities in Germany with dedicated funding.
- IIT Mandi has been made National coordinating Institution for Germany under the SPAARC scheme.
- IIT Mandi has assumed leadership among the eight second generation IITs for attracting students from SAARC nations.

For Prospective foreign students:

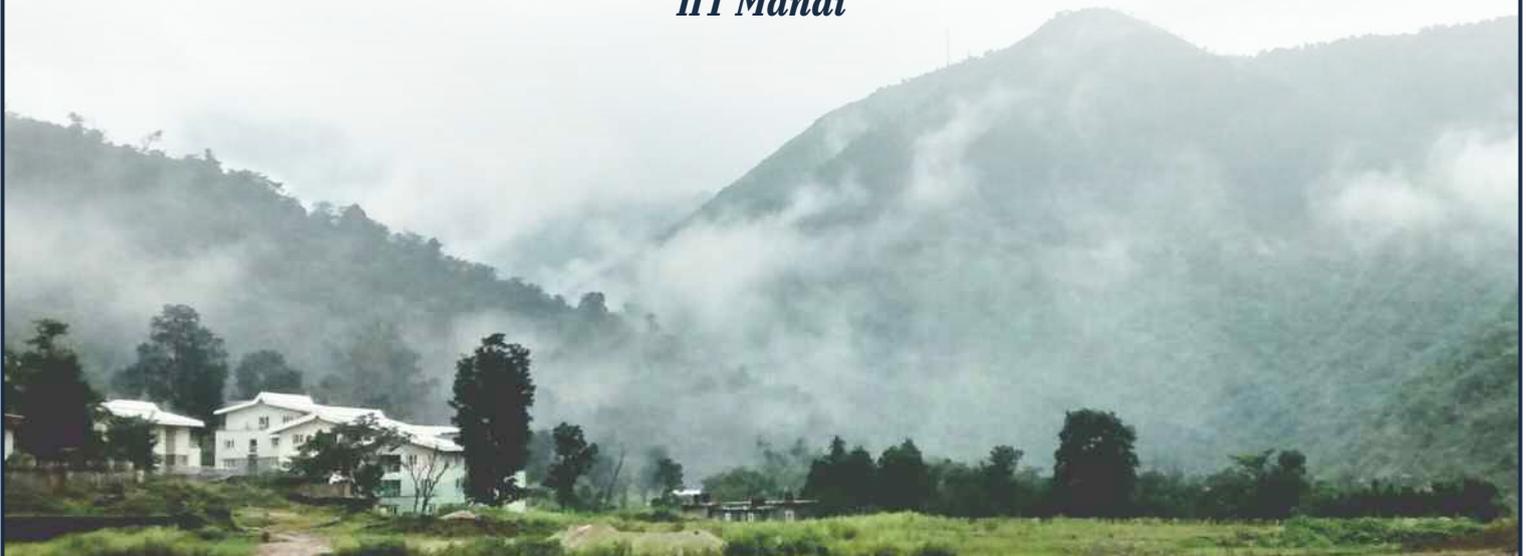
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International Relations Newsletter
IIT Mandi



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