

IIT Mandi's Third Convocation

Contact

Registrar, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi,
Kamand Campus, Kamand - 175 005, District Mandi
Himachal Pradesh, India

Phone: +91-1905-267-015

Website: www.iitmandi.ac.in

Convocation Website:

<http://iitmandi.ac.in/academics/convocation/3rdconvo.html>



The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi, now six years old, will be celebrating its Third Convocation on 31st October, 2015. The Chief Guest on the occasion will be Prof. N. Sathyamurthy, Director, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali. The Guests of Honors will be Mr. M. Natarajan, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Mandi; and, Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves, Director, IIT Mandi. During the last six years, IIT Mandi has started emerging as a centre of excellence in both teaching and research in India and world.

Graduating Batch of Students

IIT Mandi will graduate 3 Ph.D. students, 7 M.S. (by research) students, and 105 B. Tech. students in the current convocation. Currently, IIT Mandi has a total of 752 students enrolled, including 487 students in four different B. Tech. Programmes. The proportion of PG students (including M.S. and Ph.D.) in the Institute is about 35%, where UGs comprise of about 65%.

Student Medal Winners

A number of undergraduate students will be getting medals and awards for academic and overall excellence at IIT Mandi. Students getting awards include:

- Mr. Sachin S. Bhat, President of India Gold Medal and Institute Silver Medal for overall excellence in academics and top performance in Computer Engineering.
- Mr. Prashant Prazapati, Director's Gold Medal for all around excellence in academics and extra-curricular activities.
- Mr. Prashant Prazapati, Balasundaram Endowment Prize for German.
- Mr. Ingale Swapnil Sushil, Institute Silver Medal for top performance in Mechanical Engineering.
- Miss. Nidhi Manoj Makhijani, Rani Gonsalves Memorial Medal for best performance among girl students of B. Tech.

Faculty Achievements

Exceptional students flourish under exceptional faculty. Our faculty have received a number of awards and honours. Some of the notable achievements in the past 6 months include:

1. Dr. Shubahjit Roy Chowdhury was nominated as Coordinator of Wearable Devices, Embedded Systems, and Computer Aided Diagnosis theme under Health Care Sector of the pan-IIT-IISc project IMPRINT, MHRD in 2015.
2. Dr. Ramna Thakur got a 6-month Research Fellowship under the ERASMUS MUNDUS program to the Oxford University, UK in 2015.

3. Dr. Devika Sethi delivered an invited lecture titled, “The Ban Formula: Non-Indian Authors and the Colonial State in the 1920s-30s”, at the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi, in June, 2015.
4. Dr. Varun Dutt, Palvi Aggarwal, Antra Grover, Saumya Singh and Zahid Maqbool won the best paper award at the IEEE International Conference on Cyber Situational Awareness, Data Analytics and Assessment (CyberSA 2015), June 2015, London, UK, 2015.
5. Dr. Varun Dutt was nominated as the Review Editor of *Frontiers in Cognitive Science* journal in July, 2015.

New Academic Programmes

In 2014, IIT Mandi had expanded the breadth of academic programs by starting two Masters programmes: A M. Tech. programme in Energy Materials and a M.Sc. programme in Chemistry. IIT Mandi has also expanded in BioX areas with new faculty joining to form a group of 8 faculty members. This year, the Institute started an integrated M.Sc. - Ph.D. programme in Physics (iPh.D. Physics). In addition, IIT Mandi started research in Infrastructure and Civil Engineering for mountain regions, and a B. Tech. programme in Civil Engineering with 25 undergraduate students and four faculty joining in August, 2015.

Publications and Projects

IIT Mandi has had a total of 451 international publications up to this present academic year (2015). Our faculty published an average of 2.23 papers in refereed international journals in 2014. This ratio is comparable to other IITs.

Even B. Tech. students are encouraged to put their theoretical knowledge to practice: In 2014, the Design Practicum (DP) saw a number of successful projects from the graduating batch of students. Some of these projects included: Low cost 3D Printer, Intelligent Parking System, and Volumetric 3D LED Display.

IIT Mandi obtained the 3rd place in the overall tally at the Inter-IIT Tech Meet, held at IIT Kharagpur in January, 2015, beating a number of Institutes. IIT Mandi will be hosting the 4th Inter-IIT Tech Meet at its Kamand campus in January, 2016.

Placements

Pradeep Servi topped the GATE-2015 (EE) exam, in competition with 1.26 lacs candidates nationwide. A number of students have opted for higher studies at IITs, universities abroad and management institutes. Shubham Ajmera of the graduating B. Tech. batch became the 1st student from IIT Mandi to get a direct job offer from abroad, landing a job with Google, California. Kshitiz Saraswat got selected in Air Force officer cadet becoming the first of our students to join the Defence Forces. The third placement of IIT Mandi students took place in 2015. Despite its remote location many top companies visited IIT Mandi and hired our students. These companies included Altair Engineering, Benchmark, CAD Studio, Amazon, Cisco, Cognizant, DRDO, Finisar, HPCL, Infosys, Microsoft, Nucleus Software, Samsung, Sigmoid Analytics, Tescra, eClerx, IP Infusion, Khosla Labs, Amber Group, L&T, TCS, Tata Motors and several others. In all, 90% of eligible students from were placed.

International Academic Collaborations

Faculty and students at IIT Mandi are conscious of the globally competitive environment operating today, and make several efforts to collaborate with Universities and Institutes all over the world. Between April and August 2014, IIT Mandi had 2 students spend a semester from HES-SO, Haute école du paysage, d'ingénierie et d'architecture de Genève (HEPIA). In addition, in 2014, IIT Mandi had one student each from the following institutions: University of Durham, U.K.; University of Benin, Nigeria; Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany; and, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. Recently, in 2015, IIT Mandi also had two students visit from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, USA. IIT Mandi and TU9, Germany jointly organized a collaborative workshop on "Emerging Semiconductor Technologies (IECRAIETS – 2014) at the Institute's Kamand Campus in September, 2014. IIT Mandi's graduate and undergraduate students have visited several EU institutions under academic exchange in the last 1-year. These visits include: 12 students to TU9 and 1 to Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg in Germany; 5 students to Blekinge Institute of Technology, Karlskrona, Sweden; and 1 student as a part of Indian Government's Youth Delegation to China. Two of these students were awarded the 2014 DAAD-WISE scholarship. In addition, one PhD student went to Oxford University with a UK EXPERTS4Asia scholarship.

Collaboration with Industries

To encourage industry interactions, IIT Mandi hosted the 2nd Industry Academia Conclave in May 2014 jointly with CII Northern Region. About 20 participants came from regional and national industries. This conclave was instrumental in developing R&D interactions and in opening up placement and internship opportunities for our students. During the year, enhanced industry-sponsored R&D has included Aindra, Bangalore (medical image-processing) and Purdue Pharma, USA (decision-making in the Pharmaceutical industry). The latter has funded a project worth close to US\$100,000 over a 3 year period. The Intel Project, sponsored by Intel, USA to the tune of \$350,000 has entered its 3rd year. Now, state-of-art results have been achieved and Intel is considering further funding. In addition, the first patent was filed by IIT Mandi: Dr. Om Prakash Singh and his students have claimed protection for their invention Dye Sensitized Solar Panels using 3D printing technique.

Campus Development

The year 2014-15 saw IIT Mandi completing 6 years and consolidating its achievement as the only new IIT to develop and occupy its new campus. All the B. Tech. students and over half the PG students, 35% of the faculty, and a number of staff live and work in Kamand. The campus has all the basic amenities of a residential IIT with the addition of some sports fields and several canteens. Currently, 20,000 square metres of space is in use. This consists of a mix of renovated buildings and pre-engineered LGSF buildings that are economical and well insulated, and some regular masonry buildings. Most students are expected to shift to Kamand by early 2016, along with a substantial fraction of the 90+ faculty and 100+ staff. About 1,50,000 square metres of space is being constructed primarily in the North Campus, and is expected to be ready by 2016-17. In an effort to honour and preserve its unique Himalayan location, the Institute has established a Herbal Garden and Botanical Garden on its premises.