

13. INFORMATICS

I. News

41st ISTE National Annual Convention 2011

The 41st ISTE National Annual Convention will be held at Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Engineering College Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab) during December 16-18.2011. The theme for the National Seminar to be organized during the Convention will be "Role and Relevance of Regulatory Bodies in Higher Education".

14th ISTE Annual Students Convention 2011

14th ISTE Annual Students Convention will be held at Jayam College of Engineering and Technology, Nallanur, Dharmapuri Dist.(TN) during 30th September to 1st October,2011. The Theme for the National Seminar to be organized during the convention will be "Green Engineering for sustainable Development".

National Seminar on Parameters of Excellence in Higher Education

St. Josesph's College of Commerce (Autonomous) Bangalore is organizing a UGC sponsored National Seminar on Parameters of Excellence in Higher Education on 15-09-11 to 16-09-11.

An understanding of the parameters of excellence in pedagogic methods includes latest innovation in the field of teaching , which has constantly undergone changes matching to the times, be it in the acquiring knowledge or imparting it.

Main objectives of the seminar are:-

- To know the changes involved in curriculum development and excellence in academics
- Exploration of students support systems which have enhanced knowledge management in higher education.
- Acquiring info. About student outreach and extension activities of the institutions, which would not only provide students with academic excellence but also create an awareness and concern for lesser privileged in the society.
- Unearthing the best practices in research activities in higher educational institutions.

Subtheme for seminar include :

- Best practices in curriculum Development
- Core areas – Industry academia need for collaborations
- Socio economic issues
- Innovation/technological advancement
- Evolving teaching learning programmes
- Learning outcome and Quality assurance
- Student support systems in higher education institutions
- Best practices in research activities
- Student outreach and extension activity for enhancement of overall development of personality

For further details contact Dr. A. M. Sheela or Dr. D. Raja Jebasingh Conference conveners St. Josephs College of Commerce (Autonomous) 163, Brigade Road Bangalore - 560 025 Karnataka. Telephone : 080-2536 0644/46, +91 98869 87978. E-mail : nationalseminar2011@sjcc.edu.in, profjeba@gmail.com

II. Views

Agents of change in new India

Kapil Sibal Honorable Union Minister of Human Resource Development and Communications & Information Technology, delivered the Convocation address at the 11th Convocation of Dharmasinha Desai University, Nadiad, Gujrat on May 24th 2011. He said "let us consider what the present overall situation is .we have a global economic system that tells us that its cheaper to destroy earth in real time rather than renew, restore and sustain it. At present we are stealing the future selling it in the present and calling gross domestic product. we can just as easily have an economy that is based on healing the future instead of stealing it. we can either create assets for the future or take the assets of the future. one is called restoration and other is exploitation .and whenever we exploit the earth we exploit people and cause untold suffering .but I see hope everywhere in the world; ordinary people willing to confront despair ,power and incalculable odds in order to restore some semblance of grace, justice and beauty to this world. Humanity is coalescing. it is reconstituting the world and the action is taking place now. will you be a part of that section".

Challenges for Indian Higher Education System

N.R. Shetty, President, ISTE New Delhi and former Vice chancellor, Bangalore University delivered the Convocation address at the 27th Annual convocation of Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati on 21st May 2011. He said "The chasm that exists between theory and practice combined with the fragmentation of the idea of knowledge leads to the confusion that our system of higher education is suffering from. To overcome this, sit would be necessary that universities adopt a curricular approach which treats knowledge in a holistic manner and creates exiting opportunities for different kinds of interfaces between the disciplines , which is unthinkable today in most of the universities and institutions of higher learning . it is important that universities relate to the world outside and the

walls of disciplines are porous enough to let other voices be heard . it would also be necessary that university education is seen in its totality and subject areas not be designed in isolation”.

Opportune Moments have Come to Our Country : Don't let them Pass by Without Grabbing

M Veerappa Molly , Honorable Union Minister of Law and Justice delivered the Convocation Address at the XXII Convocation -2010 of Sambalpur University ,Sambalpur on the 14th July . He said “Higher education is geared for drastic changes in the next few years . The policy of creating a Council for higher Education in India, the revamping of existing institutions of higher learning addressing the financial and technical support to such institutions etc. are likely to contribute to the improved standards in higher education . All the universities and institutions of higher learning and research must take advantage of these changes and march towards excellence and face the challenges not only within India but he challenges from abroad”.

News from The Engineering Education Foundation, Pune.

XVI Foundation Day of the Engineering Education Foundation, was celebrated on Saturday, 2 nd July 2011 at the Govt Polytechnic, Pune. On this occasion:-

1. The Inaugural Function.

The Inaugural Function was presided by Sir. Dr. M.S.Gosavi, Secretary, Gokhale Education Society, Nashik. Dr. R. P. Mohanty, H.R,Consultant of Mumbai & Dean, ITM Group of Institution, delivered the Inaugural address. In his address, Dr. Mohanty, appreciated the services of the Foundation particularly, the quality mission it has undertaken and wished the Foundation all success . The 96 th quarterly Issue of the Journal of Engineering Education was published at the hands of Dr. Mohanty. Dr. M.S.Gosavi , the President of the Function , delivered the concluding address

(Dr. Mohanty has recently taken over as the Vice Chancellor of the S.O.A. University, Bhuwaneshwer.)



Publication of the 96th Quarterly Issue of JEE 02/07/2011

Left to Right : Dr. Ashok Ghatol, Prof. N. V. Ratnalikar, Dr. A.D. Sahasrabudhe,
Dr. R.P. Mohanty, Dr. M.S. Gosavi, Dr. V. P. Gosavi, Prof. Zingade

2. The E.E.F. Maharashtra Best Engineering Teacher Awards for 2010-11

Under its Quality Mission, the EEF had announced The E.E.F. Maharashtra Best Engineering Teacher Awards for 2010-11. The Award consists of Rs 5,000/-, EEF Momento and Citation and is awarded separately for the Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics and also separately for Male and Female teachers. These awards were announced for the first time and will be given every year. The Awards for the year 2010-11, were given away at the hands of Dr. M. S. Gosavi and Dr. R. P. Mohanty. The following were the recipients of the award.

Engineering College Awards:-

1. Dr. C.C. Handa, K.D.K.College of Engineering, Nagpur (Male)
2. Dr. (Mrs) Varsha Patil. Matoshri College Engineering, Nashik (Female)

Polytechnic Awards:-

1. Dr. S. B. Dhoot, Govt. Polytechnic, Aurangabad.
2. Mrs. S. S. Agrawal, Govt. Polytechnic, Aurangabad.

(Note:- It may be mentioned that Govt Polytechnic Aurangabad, was awarded the Best Polytechnic Award of the E.E.F, last year i.e. for the year 2009-10.)

3. Annual Convention of the Federation of the Consortia

The EEF has conceived the idea of the Consortia of Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics.

Colleges can grow and develop Individually, but there are limitations to this growth. To overcome this, the Institutions must come together, plan together and generate synergy and try to grow synergistically. Hence, the Foundation has established 10 such Consortia in different parts of Maharashtra. And also formed the State level consortia last year i.e. in 2010. So, the Maharashtra Federation got together and celebrated its II Annual Convention this year, along with the XVI Foundation Day of the EEF on 2-7-2011 at Pune.

Chairpersons/ Representatives of five Consortia attended the Convention and presented a short report on their activities and their plans for the year 2011-12. Dr. A.D.Sahasrabudhe of Pune, Dr. K.N.Nandurkar of Nashik, Dr. Mrs Sushma Kulkarni of Kolhapur. Dr. H.S.Hikude of Solapur, and Dr. C.C. Handa from Nagpur were notable amongst the audience.

4. Seminar on "Technical University"

A Special Session was arranged when distinguished Speakers-Dr. M. S.Gosavi, Dr. Mohanty, Dr. A. D. Sahasrabudhe and Prof N. V. Ratnalikar, presented their views on the topic-Technical University for Maharashtra.

5. Report on The EEF.

Prof. N.V.Ratnalikar submitted a short report on the EEF activities and presented plans for the year 2011-12, which can be summarized as given below:-

- i) To arrange one Day Seminar on "TQM in Engineering Education" through the Consortia at different places in Maharashtra.

- II) To bring out one more i.e. the XIII Special issue on “Technological Universities in India” in January 2012.
- III) To organize a National Conference on “TQM in Engineering Education” in April 2012.
- iv) To arrange the publication of the 100 th quarterly Issue of the Journal of Engineering Education, which is due for publication in April 2012, on a mega-scale by planning an International Conference on TQM in E.E. and also to explore the possibility of bringing out an International bi-annual on “TQM in EE/ Higher Education.”
- v) To work for the establishment of an International Resource Centre on Engineering Education, in collaboration with some well established Engg. College.
- vi) To work for the individual accreditation of an Engineering Teacher, &
- vii) To explore the possibility of establishing a Research Centre for Engineering Education.

6. Donation of Rs. One lakh to the Engineering Education Foundation, Pune.

During this session Dr. S.P. Kallurkar, Principal A.G.Patil Institute of Technology, Solapur , made an announcement of **a Donation of Rs. One Lakh for the Engineering Education Foundation, Pune, on behalf of the Chairman of his Institute—A.G.Patil Institute of Technology, Solapur,**

7. The Valedictory Session

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Dr. M. S.Gosavi. The Convention ended by a vote of thanks by Dr. S. P. Kallurkar, Principal, A.G.Patil College of Engineering, Solapur .

An Appeal to

All Principals of Engineering Colleges & Polytechnics

“To celebrate 10th September as the Engineering Teachers’ Day—

— Why? and How?

1. The Engineering Education Foundation (EEF), Pune, has come up with a new idea that the Teachers of Engineering Colleges & Polytechnics should celebrate 10th September as Engineering Teachers Day, every year.

We, the Engineering Teachers, belong to two Professions;

- i. Engineering profession &
 - ii. the Teaching profession.
2. The Teachers of Higher Educations (Arts, Science, Commerce, etc.) train their students for different disciplines whereas, we the Engineering Teachers have to train our Students for a single profession i.e. Engineering profession. We- the Engineering Teachers- have to keep before us the ideals of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the Father of Teaching Profession and acquire the traits and skills of the teaching profession. In addition to this, we have to take inspiration from the life of Dr. M. Viswesarayya—The Father of Engineering Profession and impart the skills and mindset of an Engineer, to our students... Today, there are about 6 lakh Engineering Teachers in India from both the Engineering Colleges and the Polytechnics.

As such, it will be in the fitness of things, **to celebrate 10th September as Engineering Teachers Day;**

(Please note that 10th September stands exactly in the center of the Teachers Day which is 5th September & the Engineers Day, which is 15th September.)

3. On this day, we should/can :—

- i) Garland the Photos of both Dr. RadhaKrishnan and Dr. Viswesarayya, recall their services and elaborate how they set benchmarks and ideals for their respective professions—Teaching and the Engineering Professions.
- ii) Arrange lectures of the eminent personalities from the Engineering Education, as well as the Teaching and Engineering Professions, on topics of current interest and burning issues.
- iii) Discuss the role and responsibilities of an Engineering Teacher and elaborate how the professional processes and practices of the Teaching Profession can be enhanced from

time to time, keeping pace with the changing times, using latest pedagogy and Technological advances. It should be stressed here that the task of improving the Professional processes and practices can be done only by the Engineering Teachers and none else.

- iv) Honor the Best Engineering Teachers for their performance for the year. at the Institutional as well as at other higher levels like the local/University and even the State and National Level.
- 4. We would like to suggest that every College and Polytechnic in India, should select the best Teachers every year & award them suitably, on the basis of his performance every year on this Day- 10th September, by celebrating this Day as Engineering Teachers Day.
- 5. The Engineering Education Foundation and the Federation of the Consortium of the Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics of Maharashtra, has decided to recommend to all the Principals of the Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics in Maharashtra and even outside Maharashtra, to:—
 - a. Celebrate the Engineering Teachers Day for the Year 2011 on **Saturday, 10th September 2011 at their Respective Institutions &**
 - b. To celebrate this Day **again; collectively on 14th September 2011** (2 or 3 days after the 10th September) so that a group of Colleges can come together and celebrate this day.

Hope , the above suggestion will be appreciated & implemented this year as well i.e. on Saturday 10th September 2011 and we continue this practice, year after year.

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