

Editorial

Dear Readers of JEET,

It is a pleasure for me to share my thoughts with you as Chief Editor, in this July 2015 issue of JEET (Journal of Engineering Education Transformations). As you already know, this Journal is an extension of the excellent work done by Prof. Prof. N V.Ratnalikar, who has tirelessly been publishing this Journal for more than 30 years with a passion for improving engineering education in India. I am fortunate to be following his footsteps. We are also fortunate that Dr. Sushma Kulkarni, Director of Rajarambapu Institute of Technology has taken up the leadership as the new Editor of this Journal and has provided the support of her dedicated staff. Our hope is that JEET will catalyze a dynamic movement for the betterment of engineering education in India with the assistance of our global network of engineering educators around the world. We need many more young leaders to take up this challenge with us. In this editorial I want to give you a short background about IUCEE and how it relates to JEET and our efforts.

Indo US Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE), with headquarters at University of Massachusetts Lowell, was conceptualized by over 150 leaders of engineering education and businesses from US and India in 2007. IUCEE is one of the founder members of IFEEES (International Federation for Engineering Education Societies), which was the primary facilitator for the growth and development of IUCEE. The vision of IUCEE is to improve the quality and global relevance of engineering education and research in India and related benefits to global engineering educators, with focus on faculty development, student development, curriculum development, as well as improved teaching technologies & research.

The IUCEE process is under way during the past eight years. Financial contributions from distinguished patrons have helped initiate the program during first three years. Each year, international experts from the US travel to India to discuss global best practices in teaching and research in their field with Indian faculty at Faculty Leadership Institutes (FLI). During the past seven years, 180 workshops were conducted. Significant positive outcomes from these FLIs have been demonstrated. Networks for collaborations have been created between faculty from over 150 Indian colleges and 250 US faculty members from over 50 US institutions resulting in a wide variety of research and teaching collaborations.

The IUCEE Consortium, created in 2010, has 60 institutional members as of June 2015. Members receive special assistance in establishing collaborations with US experts and institutions. Most importantly, it also enables IUCEE to be financially sustainable. Dr. Narayana Murthy, former Chairman of Infosys and a mentor for IUCEE, advised me that I should stop working on IUCEE if the people benefitting from it are not willing to provide financial support.

The IUCEE Virtual Academy has been created in 2011, using technology to enable US experts to conduct live Webinars and MiniCourses on-line from the US to faculty and students all over India. More than 400 one-hour webinars on teaching, research and general education topics have been conducted online by US faculty to Indian faculty and students. In addition, 26 MiniCourses of 10 Webinar Lectures each by US experts have been conducted during 2012-13. Recordings of all the webinars and lectures are available to IUCEE Consortium members on our partner Inpods site (<http://iucce.inpods.com/MasterCourse>). The IUCEE Research Academy has been launched in 2013 with the goal of providing mentoring and co-guides for faculty in Indian colleges who are pursuing PhD. Several Research Academy workshops have been successfully conducted. Distinguished US faculty researchers participated and were available for mentoring the Indian faculty.

The IUCEE-GEDC (Global Engineering Deans Council) has been launched. 16 members attended the Global Engineering Deans Conference in Chicago in October 2013 and 20 members attended the World Engineering Education Forum in Dubai in 2014. In 2015, IUCEE-GEDC is partnering with IEDC (Indian Engineering Deans Council) which is affiliated with ISTE (Indian Society for Technical Education) which is also an IFEEES member. The IUCEE-SPEED (Student Platform for Engineering Education Development) India Chapter has been launched. Representatives participated in the Global Student Forum in Columbia in September 2013 and the Global Student Forum in Dubai in December 2014. More than 40 leadership workshops for students have been conducted all over India during 2014-2015. The

IUCEE-ASEE Chapter has been founded in 2014 with 20 individual members from IUCEE Colleges. This is a platform for IUCEE to actively participate in the Annual Conferences (2014 Annual ASEE Conference in Indianapolis in June 2014 and 2015 Annual Conference in Seattle). IUCEE and IGIP have conducted a Pilot Teacher Certification in India with accreditation by IGIP (International Society for Engineering Education), Austria, with funding support from Microsoft. A second Pilot will start in September 2015. IUCEE has facilitated a few Twinning and Joint Degree programs as well as Study Abroad programs between US colleges and IUCEE Colleges in India.

In 2014, IUCEE has started co-organizing the International Conference on Transformations in Engineering Education (ICTIEE) annually in India. The first ICTIEE 2014 was held in collaboration with BVB College of Engineering and Technology, at Hubli, India in January 2014. The second was held at Bangalore in January 2015, in collaboration with BMS College of Engineering. More than 800 participants attended; 135 papers were presented; 35 participants were from around the world. The conferences are organized and sponsored under the leadership of IUCEE and the host college. IUCEE has also started publishing the Journal for Engineering Education Transformations (JEET), in collaboration with one of the Consortium Colleges (Rajarambapu Institute of Technology).

In summary, with the facilitation of IFEEES, IUCEE has been established itself as a prime mover for improving quality of engineering education in more than 100 engineering colleges in India. An ecosystem has been built with the help of global experts from around the world. This ecosystem includes face-to-face workshops, webinars and courses in a blended format for faculty development, international conferences, a peer-reviewed journal for engineering education, as well as networking opportunities between engineering educators and students from India and the IFEEES global community. I will be providing Updates about IUCEE and Upcoming Events in each issue of JEET.

This journal is a vehicle for sharing best practices in engineering education by Indian and global engineering educators. JEET is also the publisher of papers presented at ICTIEE Conferences.

We welcome high quality articles from anyone who is working on transforming engineering education around the world.

- **Emerging Issues:** Articles on emerging issues in Engineering Education that call for action from engineering education community.
- **Research:** Research articles in engineering education theory and practice.
- **Best Practices:** Articles on best practices to enhance the quality of engineering education, supported by assessment.
- **Short Communications:** Comments from readers on previous articles; original thoughts on certain issues; significant work in progress aimed at stimulating discussion.
- **Profiles of Institutions and Programs:** (fee will be charged).

Lastly, we need your help in making JEET financially sustainable. Since we are not charging fees from authors, our only source of revenue is from Subscriptions. Please encourage individual and institutional memberships among all your colleagues who are interested in assisting with improving global quality of engineering education.

Jai Ho !

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