

INFORMATICS

1. NEWS

University - Industry Interaction

A workshop on "Establishment of Liaison cells in Universities for University-Industry Interaction" was organized by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) New Delhi.

The objectives of the workshop viz. i) to acquaint the participants with various function of the cell. ii) to indicate requirements for establishing the cell and iii) to provide the participants with model of physical and financial requirements and formats of the cell for collection of information formats of the cell for collection of information in the universities and details of Industries in the neighbourhood were detailed.

The function, organization and requirements of the cell were presented. The experiences of cells in some universities were placed.

About 20 senior academics from 19 universities participated.

Bharat Electronics - IIT Kanpur tie-up

I.I.T. Kanpur and Bharat Electronics Ltd. will jointly develop an efficient algorithm called "Smartcard" which finds application in several areas like micro-wave and satellite communication.

I.I.T. Kanpur will work out various special complex algorithm for this project entitled designing an elliptic curve

crypto system and pan it on to Bharat Electronics Ltd's Central Research Laboratory (CRL) which will do the application work.

Technology Appreciation Programme

The central library of I.I.T. Madras and Industrial Consultancy and Sponsored Research (IC & SR) I.I.T. Madras organized a Technology application programme for Industries for discussing recent trends in Information Technology with special reference to CD - Rom and its usage.

National Seminar on Technical Education

A national seminar on "Planning and management of Technical Education was held at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University /Hyderabad in August 1995.

The topics discussed at the seminar included i) Planning and management : Coordinated development of Technical Education ii) Role of Universities, State Govt's and Professional Societies in Technical Education iii) Acceptability of Technical Education iv) Academic Planning, Quality Assurance Financial Management and Resource Mobilization.

B.E. in Polymer Science & Technology

A new course in B.E. (Polymer Science and technology) will be introduced at Delhi College of Engineering.

The Sixth I.I.T.

The Sixth I.I.T. has started functioning at Guwahati with an objective to improve the standards of academics in the north-east which will in turn improve the work-culture in the state and raise the level of aspiration of the students of north-east.

With 700 acres campus site at Amingaon, it will introduce departments like petroleum engineering, industrial design and applied biological sciences in addition to the three engineering disciplines viz., mechanical, computer science and electronics and communication, already started. The first batch comprises of 75 students but will expand to 400 intake. Prof. D. N. Buragohan is its first Director.

P. G. Course in Chemical Technologies

The Amaravati University has introduced a Masters Degree Course in Chemical Technologies for science graduates. This is a three years course reading to M.Sc. (Tech.) degree with i) Petrochemical Technology ii) Oils and Paints technology iii) Food Technology iv) Cellulose technology (Pulp Paper) as specialization.

The course aims at creating technologists with sound technical background for process industries such as food, oil, petrochemical, Paper etc.

P.G. Diploma in Chemical Plant Operation

A post graduate diploma course in Chemical Plant Operation-cum-Energy Management, the first of its kind in India was inaugurated at Post graduate Institute of Energy Engineering Management in Bombay.

This course covers all aspects of energy conservation methods and techniques. In its six months training duration covering subjects like electrical energy, conservation, process energy conservation, fuel conservation and waste heat recovery, non-conventional energy and energy management, followed by three months in plant training.

Centre for Technology & Management

I.I.T. Kharagpur proposes to set up a centre for technology and management in Calcutta in Collaboration with the Ispat Group of the Mittals.

The centre would concentrate on specific and task oriented post-employment training and education to increase the basic skill of the current work force in different segments of the industry.

Apple Computer - Zee TV tie-up

Apple Computer and Zee Television have come together to provide complete technology support for the channels ambitious education programmes through computers, a concept which would catch the fancy of millions of students in the coming years.

These programmes are not meant to replace formal school and colleges-education, but will supplement to effectively disseminate information and learn innovatively.

International Conference on Management of Technical Education.

The Directorate of Technical Education Maharashtra in collaboration with I.I.T. Bombay, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, is organizing an International Conference on Management

of Technical Education", under the theme "Towards Technological Society" on December 14-16, Dec 1995.

The main objective of the conference is to exchange ideas between individuals, institutions and industries from different countries in areas of planning, implementing and augmenting good quality technical education programme to meet the needs of the society. Papers will be presented in areas like : Human resource development in technical/vocational education, curriculum development, Industry-society-students participations, New trends; Challenges and Problems from introduction of high technology; Continuing Education, Management of financial resources; Technical education for women, Quality of technical education, Technology transfer, Extension Services etc.

1. VIEWS

Shri. Mulayam Singh Yadav, the then Chief Minister U.P. at convocation Address of Kanpur University, Kanpur.

Universities must ensure that higher education and knowledge in science and technology and in other fields is not restricted to a few classes and categories of the society. The country and the society should not be deprived of the geniuses and talent of thousands of young boys and girls who have been denied the opportunities of higher education because of the historical discrimination and their abject poverty -- No deserving young person, aspiring for higher education, is deprived of the same owing to poverty.

Dr. Kasturirangan, Chairman ISRO and Secretary DOS at the Sixty fifth Convocation Address of Andhra

University

i) On Developing Complimentary Attitudes

In this Modern era we have to develop a broader sense of complimentary attitudes comprising scientific, technical, artistic and religious elements. 'This is the Key for individual growth. Every individual has a great deal of creativity in him or her. One of the important tasks before any society is to provide opportunities for bringing out that creativity in each individual'.

i) On Environmental Degradation and Development.

There are already several indicators of environmental stress such as growing loss of bio-diversity, increased emissions of carbon dioxide, and other green house gases, the upward trends of deforestation, acid rains, loss of top soil, shortages of water and fuel-wood and so on.

Redressing such damages in environment may not be possible and even if it is feasible, it is going to be very expensive.

Effective actions are to be taken for protection of environment on the one hand and providing avenues for rapid economic development in the poorer countries, on the other hand.

Such problems can be tackled with some level of confidence only if population growth is arrested and additional efforts are made to achieve sustainability of natural world.

Dr. P. C. Alexander Governor of Maharashtra, at the 33rd convocation of I.I.T. Bombay.

i) On Scientific Temper

Scientific temper is not something that can be brought about by an expansion in the number of institutions of science and technology, but is an attitude of mind characterized by the spirit of enquiry and acceptance of the right to question and to be questioned. This is what John Davey meant when he said that 'education is to teach the child to think and not what to think.

Hon'ble Shivaraj Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, at the 12th Convocation of Himachal Pradesh University Shimla :

i) On Universities and National Development

"It goes without saying that Universities are not only centres for imparting knowledge, but they also occupy a key position in the development strategy of a nation. It is they who can generate the kind of intellectual or professional environment which is needed in a developing country like ours. A nation is moulded by its Universities and centres of learning. Universities, not only im-

part training, but also seek to create among students a thirst for knowledge and a desire to extend the frontiers of knowledge through research and experiment. We can build a strong and progressive nation only with a good university system.

On vocational Training

Our system of education can not be limited just to degrees. It must look at vocational training, bringing in the skills relevant to daily life and to the type of work the individual will have to do. Our system must be such that it does not push people into craving for white - colour employment. There is much in our education which requires to be changed. It should have a practical bias with emphasis on the development of skills in using theoretical knowledge for practical purposes. Educational programmes must be supported by practical training in farms or factories. Such arrangements will establish linkage between education and employing agencies to the mutual benefits of both.

3. FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Proposed Dates	Title	Objective	Organizer	Organizing Secretary
Dec 14-16 1995	International Seminar on "Management of Technical Education"	Theme : Towards Technological Society	Directorate of Technical Education, Maharashtra State	Conference Secretariate, C/o Directorate of Technical Education, 3 Mahapalika Marg, Bombay - 400001

