

In the Name of God



Isfahan University of Technology



IUT INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

A window to international activities of IUT

In order to expand the university's international scientific interactions with overseas academic institutions, the IUT International is planning to prepare international relations electronic Newsletter, in line with the IUT mission towards Green University.

The purpose of the publication is to inform esteemed professors, dear students and staff of the university about international events, educational and research opportunities available in international academic spaces that reach the office through various means, visit news and conferences as well as regulations and bylaw instructions related to international affairs, which can affect the international scientific interactions of outstanding academics.

Your constructive participation in this path will guide us toward our goal.

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IUT International NEWSLETTER is a periodic electronic newsletter to be distributed among the IUT faculty, students and staff.

First issue- October 2019



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IUT_International



031-33912505-6



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First Issue: October 2019

IUT International E- Newsletter

Expanding international scientific collaborations with universities and research institutes abroad

Based on the university's strategic transformation plan on the horizon 2025, Internationalization is one of the seven major goals of Isfahan University of Technology. Due to the importance of the field of international relations, in addition to upgrading the place of International and Scientific Cooperation Office (ISCO) to IUT International in the Organizational Structure of the University, it is directly affiliated with the university's headquarters.

Also considering the Multi-sectoral nature of international relations, by modeling the structure of the Ministry of Science, the position of Acting President for International Scientific Cooperation has been defined which will greatly contribute to the agility and dynamism of administrative relations between IUT International and other departments.

This newsletter intends to inform current educational and research opportunities in line with the Transition Plan for the Academic Community as well as a report on the university activities in international affairs.

Interested parties are invited to visit the IUT International website at: <https://iscoweb.iut.ac.ir> to find out more about the news.



“Either you have been a member of the Isfahan University of Technology family for decades or have just joined us, I am counting on you to make it the best academic year ever for you at IUT. ”

Prof. Dr. S. M. Abtahi

IUT President

Welcome back message— Page 2

Welcome Back to School!





Prof. Dr. S. M. Abtahi, IUT President

Welcome Back to School Message:

Dear Students, Staff and Faculty Members

Welcome to the start of the fall semester and the new academic year 2019-2020! Either you have been a member of the Isfahan University of Technology family for decades or have just joined us, I am counting on you to make it the best year ever for you at IUT.

Our students come from across Isfahan Province and Iran or from our neighboring countries, in search of an exceptional student experience. For those of you returning to IUT, we are glad to have you back as you continue your journey to the next graduation stage. For those new students who have just joined our family, we encourage you to make the most of your time here.

I am always impressed by the promise each new academic year presents to our students, their families, the university and our entire community. It is a time of renewal and an opportunity to reflect on what we want to accomplish in the coming months. Isfahan University of Technology is featured by opportunities for smart and diligent people, but a threat to the indolent ones.

Dear students, IUT proudly has distinguished professors who expect you to put your foot on their footprints in science and make stronger and deeper effects on the society. The advice of these professors will be unraveling, and this is a good opportunity for those who have come to start their major, because your academic identity begins with your undergraduate degree. The geography of this university which is resembling a small, smart and sustainable town, is very suitable for those looking for growth and dynamism. Our goal is not to educate one-dimensional human beings, so there are various structures for your growth and development in different fields. Different student communities may help you to be involved in various fields of social and cultural life as well as scientific issues.

The IUT staff, together with the faculty members and students, are critical to the university's excellence, and we remain committed to creating an environment that allows them to thrive and to do their best work. Your experience here will be what you make, and your opportunities will be only limited by the limits you place on yourself. We are here to support you throughout every step of the way. As one of the leading universities in Iran, we have been announced as the first Green University nationwide as well as one of the frontiers working on sustainable development. I hope you share my pride in all that we have accomplished either individually or collectively in recent years and I have a resolve to make our university even stronger during the new academic year.

I look forward to the many new milestones that we will reach together in the coming years.

Welcome to the New IUT Adjunct Professors

In the year 2019, three senior professors named Prof. Dr. Hans Wernher van de Venn, Head of Institute of Mechanic Systems IMS, ZHAW School of Engineering, Switzerland, Prof. Dr. Paul Grimm, graphic designer and computer game specialist at the Fulda University, Germany, and, Prof. Dr. Gundolf Haase, Institute for Mathematics, Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Austria, have joined IUT as adjunct professors. They have been appointed to the faculties of Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, respectively. Every Adjunct Professor collaborates with the IUT for a specified period of time in a specific area of research or education and his name could be listed among the IUT faculty members as an Adjunct Professor. The cooperation between the adjunct professors and IUT is applicable during any period of the academic year or holiday.

Cooperation in IUT research projects and further joint research work with other universities, co-supervising graduate students for their theses and dissertations, presenting research and educational Seminars and Workshops, offering IUT specialized and required courses, assistance in upgrading IUT global ranking, assistance in resolving the existing research difficulties of IUT by application of the research data, facilities and equipment existing outside Iran are some examples of possible collaboration areas.



Prof. Dr. Hans Wernher van de Venn,



Prof. Dr. Paul Grimm



Prof. Dr. Gundolf Haase

Wednesdays Language Skills

Welcoming all newcomers to IUT International Telegram Channel, it is to announce that since learning English plays an important role in your studies and in getting prepared for the international exams as well, IUT International intends to present some information that you may need for your plans or resolutions to boost your English Skills.

You may follow IUT International with the language learning posts on Wednesdays.

@IUT_International



International Scientific Trips

Since the beginning of 2019, 25 faculty members have participated in international scientific conferences. Summer opportunities were also welcomed by 43 faculty members for one to 2.5 months. Most of them traveled to Switzerland, Canada, China, Sweden, Spain, Turkey, Germany, Austria, and other European countries. We have 10 faculty members who are selected for long term sabbatical leave for 2019, of whom one of is currently on his official mission and the rest are going to sabbatical leave before the academic year 2020-2021. Besides the 20 Ph.D. students have been granted a sabbatical leave of 6-9 months aboard, as a part of their PhD research work, 7 students have been delegated to the European universities under the Erasmus+ agreement between IUT and the host universities.

Also, a batch of 6 students from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering went to Italy under the mutual agreement with the University of L'Aquila for their entrepreneurship. It was a valuable opportunity for IUT students and during this time, they were supervised by one of the academic members of the faculty of Mechanical Engineering. It is noteworthy to mention that this is the second year which BSc and MSc students could get benefit of this opportunity to spend their entrepreneurship at Italy.

IUT is the First Iranian University Accepted as a Member of CERN

The IUT president announced that this university is the first Iranian university that became a full member of CMS (Compact Muon Solenoid) experiment at the prestigious institute of CERN. Stating that Iran has been only connected to CERN through "the Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM)", Prof. Dr. Abtahi added that the Faculty of Physics at IUT is the first faculty out of Tehran that has sent students to CERN in the field of Fundamental Particle Physics for scientific cooperation.

The IUT president stipulated that, with a scientific and technological history more than four decades and brilliant domestic and foreign experiences, IUT has employed two faculty members who are currently working at CERN in the field of Laboratory Particle Physics in 2018 that is a more serious initial step in this field. It is also worth mentioning that the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering of IUT is also collaborating to CMS experimental works at CERN along with the faculty of Physics.

He also pointed that some of the IUT researchers, as the scientific collaboration reference in Iran accompanied by a high-ranked scientific board, visited CERN in Switzerland and officially announced IUT readiness to become a member of this international scientific institute.

Appreciating the generous supports of MSRT on this valuable scientific movement, Prof. Dr. Abtahi put emphasis on more support of the Iranian research and scientific institutes in order to step forward to meet the goals of this scientific international collaboration.

<https://international-relations.web.cern.ch/stakeholder-relations/states/iran>



Iranian high-ranked delegation visiting CERN

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for 2020-2021

For the purpose of broadening international interactions and research collaborations between Switzerland and more than 180 countries of the world, the Swiss Confederation grants the Government Excellence Scholarships to the applicants who are qualified to the conditions specified by the executive institution "Federal Commission for Scholarship for Foreign Students – FCS." An acceptance letter from a full-time professor of the university or institution in which they are going to pass their program is necessary for every applicant.



The expenses of one trip from the departure country to Switzerland are paid by the Swiss Government and also a half-fare public transportation card for Switzerland is given to the winners of all levels.

The call for this year's scholarships was announced on August 2, 2019 and the deadline for the applicants to send their documents is November, 15, 2019. The programs will be commenced from the beginning of September 2021. Further information on the scholarships and their eligibility criteria can be found in the following website at: <https://iscoweb.iut.ac.ir/en/node/553>. It is worth mentioning that eligible applicants should submit their applications by November 15, 2019 to the Swiss Embassy in Tehran, Iran.

Types of the Scholarships: Ph.D. Scholarship, Postdoctoral Scholarship and Research Fellowship

New Appointments Among IUT Board of Directors

IUT President has appointed Prof. Dr. Hossein Khademi as the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Prof. Dr. Behrooz Arbab Shirani to the Vice-Presidency of Research and Technology Affairs.

Also Prof. Dr. Mohammad Javad Omid, was appointed as the Acting President of the university for International Affairs and Technology Infrastructures Development. His appointment to this unprecedented future-oriented office is indicative of a very well-deserved position showing the importance and determination of the university's board on the path to internationalization.

In line with the university's strategic transformation plan on the horizon 2025, the entire IUT board of directors and the International development committee, along with every individual faculties are working together to achieve the university's international goals.



Why Internationalization of Higher Education?

"We tend to believe that since we're good, the world will come to us, "Do you agree with this opinion?

September 17, 2017 , By [Christopher Cripps](#)

International strategy for universities: 10 keys to success

1-Formalize the strategic process: The first key to success for an international strategy is having one! Like companies, governments and NGOs, a university must decide where in the world it should concentrate its efforts, with which partners, and for what types of activities. Analyze the university's strengths in education and research, existing relationships, and the means at its disposal to achieve its objectives within a set time frame. If your university is ranked internationally, define how to capitalize on that ranking. If it's not, study the different rankings' internationalization criteria to help inspire your strategy. In today's ever-changing, globalized environment, a solid three-year international development plan is a good start.

2- Define the scope of the strategy: Formal international relationships have traditionally focused more on student and faculty exchange. Enlarge the scope of the university's international development to include collaborative research, joint academic program design and delivery, innovation and entrepreneurship, and activities with companies.

3- Solicit input from stakeholders: Don't go it alone. Involve representatives from across the university community in the strategic process. Establish a framework and ask for input from faculty, staff, local and international students, alumni, corporate partners, ministries, diplomats, and international partners. You'll get a real-world perspective that will allow you to fine-tune the scope and priorities actions.

To be continued...<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/international-strategy-universities-10-keys-success>

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Your constructive comments and suggestions are most welcomed.

First Issue: October 2019



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Licensed by: Isfahan University of
Technology

Special Thanks to IUT International
Staff for their great helps.





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For Summer Time News

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The Science Tour of Iranian High Delegation in Switzerland

The science tour of Iranian high delegation in Switzerland was held on July 17-23, 2019. The Iranian delegation was headed by Prof. Dr. Hossein Salar Amoli, Acting Minister for International Affairs, and the Head of the MSRT Center for International Scientific Collaboration.

This Tour was organized in two parts: the official meetings and the joint workshops.

One of the official visits took place at State Secretary for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) of Switzerland in Bern with the presence of high-level delegation of higher education from both countries, as the second meeting of Iran-Switzerland scientific and technological working group. The meeting was held in response to the visit of the Swiss Federal Minister of Education, Presidents and representatives of 19 Swiss universities and research institutes in Tehran, in 2017. Following the meeting, Representatives of the top universities of Iran have discussed the development of cooperation between faculty members in the fields of sabbatical leaves for PhD students and professors, exchange of faculties and students, holding joint training courses and describing educational systems in the two countries, with the support of the Ministries of Science in both countries.

Continuing the journey of the Iranian high-ranked delegation the CERN Research Center hosted the delegation including Iranian high-ranked representatives of the leading universities and research centers. Visiting some of the leading Universities in Switzerland such as Univ. of Geneva and Univ. of Zurich was also within the agenda of this Science tour.

The second part of this science tour was during June 20-23, 2019. Some of the academic members of Iranian universities joined the group to attend the workshops organized jointly by IUT and Zhaw as the leading houses from both countries while the high-delegates came back to Iran.

Acting Minister of MSRT:



“internationalization is not a luxury, but a cost saving and a reduction in costs.”

To have more information about this science tour you may visit our news at the following website: iscoweb.iut.ac.ir



The Second Meeting of Iran-Switzerland scientific and technological working group- SERI- Bern



Visiting University of Geneva



Visiting CERN- Geneva



Iranian Embassy—Bern



Iran- Switzerland Joint Workshop- Zhaw- Winterthur

“Isfahan University of Technology must be international in its mission and function.”

Prof. Dr. Salar Amoli

The Acting Minister of Science, Research and Technology in International Affairs and the Head of the Center for Scientific and International Cooperation of the MSRT and his delegates met with members of the Board of Governors of Isfahan University of Technology during his visit to Isfahan in July 2019.

In this meeting, the IUT president, presented a brief report on the process of international scientific activities of the university and each of the participants commented on the international scientific relations of the university in their field of activity and discussed questions and problems with Dr. Salar Amoli and the accompanying delegates.



Dr. Salar Amoli, appreciated and honored IUT as one of the leading universities in the international arena. He stated: "Isfahan University of Technology must be an international university in terms of mission and function". He also mentioned that: "The Minister of MSRT has outlined the priorities of this ministry in three key areas: resolving industry and community problems, training skilled and capable alumni, and internationalizing universities." According to him, internationalization is not a luxury, but a cost saving and a reduction in costs. In line with the internationalization of the Iranian universities, he recommended targeting some countries, providing a 3 to 5 year roadmap for internationalization as well as motivating faculty members to enter the international arena.

The Acting Minister thanked IUT and Dr. Fakhran, Director of IUT International Relations, for the valuable efforts related to the very important steps and activities undertaken in expanding the University's international relations and its remarkable accomplishments. He also encouraged IUT to define appropriate instruments for research works and to expand effective scientific relations with the Swiss universities. Referring also to the support of MSRT in establishing joint courses, he recommended IUT to initiate and expand joint courses with the target countries as well as to continue cooperation with regional countries, especially the Kurdistan Region.

Workshop on Proposal Writing Guide for EU Grants

Workshop on Proposal Writing Guide for EU Grants (Horizon 2020), with emphasis on Proposals related to Individual Fellowship, was held at IUT in August, 2019.

Prof. Dr. Moslem Zarei, one of the academic member of the IUT Faculty of Physics, who was awarded this grant last year, was the lecturer of this workshop. During this event, he illustrated the practical and important points which should be considered in preparing a proposal for this grant and discussed the related topics to faculty members attending the workshop.



The Fifth of the Five– UT5



IUT was the host of the fifth convention held by the five top universities of technology (UT5) on the last day of July 2019. Pointing out to the fact that nowadays, internationalization is a national mission for the Iranian universities, Prof. Dr. Abtahi, stated that conventions by UT5 are fruitful events through which other goals such as admitting foreign students, getting promotions in international rankings as well as achieving industry and innovation markets can be met.

Prof. Dr. Abtahi added that the international outlook of universities should surpass the mere participation in worldwide rankings as well as admission of international students and they should reach an international thought dominating all university structures.

The UT5 members including Isfahan University of Technology, Sharif University of Technology, Iran University of Science & Technology, K. N. Toosi University of Technology, Amirkabir University of Technology, as the 5 Iranian leading technical universities, have decided to initiate an academic consortium, in winter 2019.

It is to mention that, IUT and leading Universities in Isfahan have signed an MOU for the establishment of Isfahan Universities Network (IUN) for International Cooperation in March 2019.

IUT in THE Ranking Systems 2020



In the latest academic rankings results published by Times Higher Education (THE) for 2020, Isfahan University of Technology (IUT) was ranked 601-800th in World University Ranking, and 109th in Asian University Ranking categories.

According to the **subject** category of Times Higher Education 2020, IUT is:

Ranked first in the country for Agricultural, Forestry, Environmental and Marine Sciences fields; **Ranked 2nd** in the country for life sciences; **Ranked 3rd** in the country for International Outlook and Industry Income and **Ranked 4th** in the list of 40 Iranian Universities

It should be noticed that the Times Higher Education ranking system, is one of the most reliable ranking systems for the world universities. For the duration between 2012 to 2014, only one university, and in 2015, two universities of Isfahan University of Technology and Sharif University of Technology were ranked by this database. This number rose to 18 universities in 2019, and finally 40 universities from Iran have joined 1396 top universities of the world from 92 countries.



EU Award Winners from IUT

Dr. Vahid Salari and Dr. Moslem Zarei, two young academic members of IUT faculty of Physics, have been given grants by European Union under the Horizon 2020 program.



Dr. Salari's scholarship is titled Euro Flagship on Quantum Technologies and it has been defined in Collaboration with three countries of Germany, Switzerland and Spain.



It should also be noticed that the precious grant of "Seal of Excellence" Marie Curie under the European Horizon 2020 program, belongs to

Dr. Zarei.

They are carrying out their research work abroad, in the academic year 2019–2020.

60 thousand Swiss Francs is Allocated to Iranian Students

The results of mobility Grant in 2019 have been declared by ZHAW which is the Leading House for scientific cooperation with Iran.

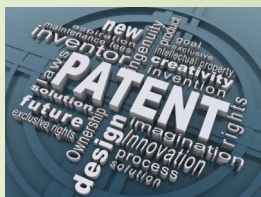
According to the results reported by ZHAW, from the total 115 applications received by Iranian students, 8 grants with worth of 60 thousand Swiss francs have been granted to some students from 6 Iranian Universities.



According to the report given by the Leading House for scientific cooperation with Iran, the Iranian winners of this research grant are from Tarbiat Modares University (2 students), Tehran University (2 students), the University of Isfahan, Isfahan University of Technology, the University of Zanjan, and Alzahra University.

Mobility grants enable the young generation of scientists (i.e. those with a Master's degree but no PhD yet and with not more than 6 years of professional research experience) to integrate in international collaboration. They help to build up new partnerships through personal contacts and thereby make such partnerships more sustainable. Mobility grants are aimed at attracting young talents to Switzerland, and they encourage Swiss researchers to enhance their careers by spending time in an academic environment abroad.

Ministry of Science and Technology Sponsors Patents Overseas



The Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT), in collaboration with the Vice President of Science and Technology, has jointly sponsored patents funded by faculty members and students at science, research and technology centers.

According to the mutual MOU, it is anticipated that 90% of the costs of patenting abroad will be paid through the resources allocated by MSRT and the Scientific Vice Presidency in the Iranian Patent Office.

For more information, interested scholars may visit IUT International website at the following link: <https://iscoweb.iut.ac.ir/fa/node/548>

UNESCO and MAB Young Scientist Awards for 2020

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has announced the call for the award, "Man and the Biosphere (MAB) program". The award is intended to encourage young scientists in developing countries to research issues related to biosphere reserves as well as exchange information and experiences among new-generation scientists.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Man and
the Biosphere
Programme

Applicants must be up to 35 years of age and submit interdisciplinary projects related to biosphere reserves. These projects should be completed for a maximum of two years.

The prize is about \$ 5000 and the Deadline for applications is on 13 December 2019.

Note that applications must be received by UNESCO no later than 13 December 2019 to be eligible.

For further information you may refer to the link below to see the details and download the relevant form. <https://en.unesco.org/mab/awards#young-scientists>



**Don't Wait for
opportunity,
Create it!**

George Bernard Shaw



Why Internationalization of Higher Education?

September 17, 2017 , By [Christopher Cripps](#)

International strategy for universities: 10 keys to success

4-Select key projects and programs: Make a short list of the university's core projects and programs that can be highlighted as you establish new partnerships worldwide. Comparing strategic research initiatives with a potential partner is always an effective way to start exploring avenues for cooperation.

5- Determine strategic countries: It's neither possible nor desirable to try to be everywhere. A maximum of five or six strategic countries will suffice. Combine a bottom-up and top-down approach. Use input from stakeholders as well as reliable analysis of your university's existing academic and research collaborations to see in which countries the university already has an impact.

Next, take a closer look at countries in which your university is not active but perhaps should be. Your criteria could be fast-paced economic growth, student quality, research output, and the number of major companies from your home country doing business there.

6- Refine strategic partnerships: Universities often boast hundreds of partnerships, but how many are truly active? Leading universities are downsizing their partnerships to focus on a smaller number of key institutional relationships for more intensive cooperation, often based on co-financed collaborative research projects, faculty and student mobility, and joint programs. Select strategic partners by capitalizing on current successful relationships. Target universities considered as peers in terms of quality, research output, reputation, and international outreach. Be realistic, neither aiming too high or too low. Determine the number of strategic partners by evaluating the university's capacity to sustain the relationships. Don't sign agreements that just collect dust!

7- Establish a professional international team: Without support from the leadership, the best strategies will fizzle out. International strategy must be incarnated by the president or provost. A vice-president and/or director of international affairs must build a team that will drive the strategy, set activities in motion with various departments across the university, and liaise with international partners.

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Special Issue: October 2019



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**Special Thanks to IUT International
Staff for their great helps.**



To be continued...<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/blog/international-strategy-universities-10-keys-success>