The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) has partnered with a leading Australian institution The University of Queensland (UQ) to launch its first international joint PhD program. UQ Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Peter Hoj and IITD Director Professor V Ramgopal Rao signed the historic agreement at IIT Delhi on September 22, formalising a mutual goal to build diverse and sustainable partnerships.

The Academy of Research (UQIDAR) will pave the way for students and academics to partner on projects addressing some of the most pressing issues affecting India, Australia, and global communities. Open to all disciplines, the UQIDAR will enable students to gain a global qualification from both IITD and UQ, a university ranked among the worlds top 50. The majority of students will be recruited into the program in New Delhi, with a small cohort of Australian based researchers.

The collaboration will involve strong industry linkages, which Professor Hoj said is integral to the student experience. “As a global university, UQ is committed to developing people-to-people links with India’s higher education sector and the University is privileged to partner with the Institute of Eminence such as IITD,” Professor Hoj said. “In time we hope prominent research institutes in and around New Delhi will join the Academy as an associate and industry partners, so we can continue to expand internationally relevant research in diverse areas such as medicine, economics, agriculture and the humanities.”

With generous scholarship opportunities, the UQIDAR will enable students from India and Australia to take advantage of world-class facilities and resources and to gain exposure to culturally diverse research networks.

Professor Rao said the program would provide an excellent platform for emerging research, giving students access to employment opportunities with global sponsors. “Capturing opportunities to grow our research community and creating high-value jobs of the future is a key priority for IITD,” Professor Rao said.

We want to make India a key player in the higher education sector internationally and we are committed to building a strong culture of collaboration with one of the best institutions in Australia.

The Academy will allow for scale and sustainability. It is expected to graduate more than 360 students within the next 10 years.
**Prof Amit Kumar Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awardee, 2018**

- Professor Amit Kumar is currently Jaswinder and Tarwinder Chadha chair professor in the department of Computer Science and Engineering at IIT Delhi. He holds a Bachelors degree from IIT Kanpur and PhD from Cornell University. Prior to joining IIT Delhi in 2003, he worked as a member of technical staff at Bell Laboratories, New Jersey and has held several visiting professor positions at Microsoft Research India, IBM Research India and Max-Planck Institute, Germany.
- He has received INAE (Indian National Academy of Engineer) Young Engineer Award, INSA (Indian National Science Academy) Young Scientist Award, IBM Faculty Award and was Max-Planck-India partner group research fellow during 2005-09.
- Professor Kumar has been selected for the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, 2018 for Mathematical Sciences, the announcement for which was made on September 26.

**Industry Day 2018**

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Delhi), successfully culminated its second Industry Day 2018 – Accelerating Innovation in Science & Technology---on September 22. This one-day event brought together academic researchers and businesses from across sectors to forge engagement opportunities and identify future research project ideas for development. The event had footfall of close to 1000 visitors, including industry experts and other delegates, making it a great opportunity for networking between industry and researchers.
- The event brought together over 350 industry experts to discuss major collaborations and build relationships between industry and academia based on current societal requirement. Organized at IIT Delhi Campus, the event encompassed thought-provoking views from researchers and Industry experts. There was also opportunity to participate in partnering discussions in the networking environment. Industry Day 2018 focused on five themes – Healthcare for All, Smart Manufacturing, Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain Technologies, Sustainable Habitat and Strengthening the Start-up Eco-system.
- The major attributes of the Industry Day entailed by key-note speakers who explored avenues of possible fusion pertaining to research and consultancy, as well as panel discussions to find plausible solutions to bridge corporate expectation with academic training.
- Major industry technology experts such as Abhay Kumar Vaish, Sr. VP and CTO, Ericsson, K. Ananth Krishnan, EVP & Chief Technology officer, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Narendra Chirmule, Senior Vice President, Biocon Limited, Paghavan, Senior Vice President and CTO, IBM India, Sanjeev Arora, EVP, JCB and Kaushik Saha, CEO, Samsung were part of the CTO panel.
**Director’s Dinner for International Students**

- The Director’s Annual Dinner for International Students was recently concluded on 18th September, 2018 at the Director’s House. The event was hosted by the Director, Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, with logistical assistance from AAIP, IIT Delhi. It took place with much fanfare and witnessed 50+ attendees. The guest list included all the Deans of IIT Delhi, all international and foreign exchange students, forex buddies and the general secretaries of all our major student boards.

- The event commenced with the arrival of the international students, each of whom pinned their respective countries on a world map placed at the entrance. Soon enough, everyone was intermingling like old companions, even though many people had met each other for the first time, reaffirming the tried and tested master combination of lip-smacking food, tranquilizing music and an ebullient ambience.

- The Director addressed the gathering and spoke about the initiatives and innovations we are undertaking to strengthen our foothold on the global educational platform. This was followed by Foreign Exchange Students from different countries narrating anecdotes pertaining to their experiences in IIT Delhi and India in general, and also giving insights about how the exchange programme is helping them to broaden their horizons and grow as individuals.

- On this occasion Dean announced that a separate international office will be soon open and their will be a single point of contact for the foreign students under the international office. It includes all the activities related to exchange programme internship of the students. Foreign collaboration with the International universities colleges etc.

- One of the students Bo-An (from Taiwan) displayed his marvellous breakdance skills as he danced upon a popular Bboy track. In the end, IITD T-shirts were gifted to the international students as souvenirs. The aim of the event was successfully achieved as the international students were able to network and intermix with the various constituents of IIT Delhi. We would like to thank the Director for hosting the dinner.
IIT Delhi sets up a Center of Excellence on Sustainable Infrastructure

- IIT Delhi has set up a Center of Excellence for Sustainable Infrastructure (COESI) aimed at carrying out advanced research in the areas of sustainable, energy efficient and smart infrastructure. The CoE will be supported by funds from Yardi Software Pvt Ltd (YSIPL), the Indian arm of the global company Yardi Systems.

- Established in 1984, Yardi Systems is a leading provider of high-performance solutions for infrastructure and real estate industry. A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect has been signed between the partners. The broad areas in which the CoE will carry out research include energy efficiency and conservation, building management systems, socio techno-economics and financing of interventions aiming at sustainability. Besides conducting energy and environmental assessment of the infrastructure sector, the CoE will map ways for sustainable habit and transportation, chart methods for harnessing renewable energy for infrastructure sector and produce sensor devices for smart infrastructure.

- Prof V. Ramgopal Rao, Director IIT Delhi maintains that while infrastructure requirements are vital for economic growth of a country, it is also pertinent to make them sustainable. “There is a need to have a multidisciplinary and integrated approach for optimal use of the available resources. The new CoE will carry out research in areas that will help build a sustainable infrastructural ecosystem for the country,” he says. “Yardi Systems is delighted to support IITD’s Center of Excellence for Sustainability.

- We are looking forward to their efforts to advance and impact energy conservation in large buildings and infrastructure projects including energy conservation and reduction of greenhouse gas”, says Anant Yardi, Founder and President of Yardi System Inc. and also an Alumnus of IIT Delhi. Observing that the research ambit for the new CoE was wide and particularly relevant for India, Dean (R&D) Prof B R Mehta said: “This will be the fifth Center of Excellence to be set up on the campus in the last two years for undertaking research in multi-disciplinary areas. We are very excited about this collaboration and are confident that this will build an energy-efficient architecture that can produce a sustainable infrastructure.”
Literati 2018 held at IIT Delhi

- Literati, the annual literary festival of the Board for Student Publications of IIT Delhi inaugurated on September 14, was dotted with intellectual talks and discussions.
- This year, the fest had a series of keynote lectures lined up on variety of topics. It started off with a talk by Anant Goenka, the Executive Director of The Indian Express, who answered tough questions about journalism, politics, policy, and management. Rajdeep Sardesai, a consulting editor at the India Today group, and host of India Today Television talked about his book Democracy’s XI. Devdutt Pattanaik, one of India’s foremost authors of mythological fiction, talked about his approach to interpreting the vast sea of Indic knowledge for his books. Mr. Paranjoy Guha Thakurta, ex-editor at EPW, author, and documentary filmmaker talked about efforts to curb disinformation. Dr. Ramgopal Rao, Dr. Ashutosh Sharma, and Dr. Vijay Chandru, discussed about the T in IIT’s and discussed how education policy assist more students to move beyond traditional career choices.
- The fest also witnessed a theatre performance on 'Partition' by Asmita Theatre Group.

Japan Course

- The Japan Course was launched by the FB Japan Centre of IIT Delhi in August. It was a 1-week course from 27th August, 2018 to 31st August, 2018 aimed at students who wish to pursue their career or life in Japan.
- The objective the course was to familiarize the students with Japanese culture, ideals and working methodology and enable them to have a more enriching experience in Japan. Many Japanese companies are interested in offering jobs at prestigious Indian colleges like IIT Delhi, and this step lays the foundation of a synergistic relationship between the two.

Nagme

- NAGME 2018 – Alumni Musical Evening, held on Saturday, 15th September 2018 at Seminar Hall, IIT Delhi, more than 15 alumni performance held. The audience spellband by their rendering of songs from Hindi films of yesteryears. About 150 alumni and their family members along with many more web viewers watched the scintillating performances on stage all-time high of over 2500 viewers visited the web casting space during the show.
Foreign Exchange Student Mentorship Programme (FOREX Buddy Programme)

- The Foreign Exchange Student Mentorship Programme, a.k.a the FOREX Buddy Programme was successfully implemented in September by AAIP. After a rigorous buddy selection process.
- The objective of the program is to provide an immediate student point of contact in IIT Delhi who can be a friend to the mentees and whom they can approach even for the nitty-gritties of college life.
- It has received a lot of appreciation from the foreign exchange students, and AAIP takes periodical reviews to assess the performance of the buddies and ensure that the exchange students don’t face any problems.

SUPERANNUATED FACULTY

Prof. B. Jayaram (Chemistry)
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and

1. Persian Gulf University
   Bushehr, Iran
   (11 September 2018)

2. The University of Newcastle
   (4 September 2018)

3. bbw University of Applied Sciences
   (4 September 2018)

4. University of Queensland
   (22 September 2018)

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS VISITED IIT DELHI

- From Tulane University on 10 September 2018
- From Tashkent University on 11 September 2018
- From Alacrity Foundation of Canada on 17 September 2018.
- From University of Malawi on 17 September 2018.
- From University of Georgia on 18 September 2018.
- From Ministry of IT & CD the Republic of Uzbekistan on 20 September 2018.
- From U.S. Army RDECOM-Pacific on 24 September 2018
ALUMNI NEWS

Boeing appoints IIT Delhi alumnus Pratyush Kumar to head F-15 fighter jet programme

- US-based aircraft-maker Boeing has named its India president Pratyush Kumar to lead the iconic F-15 fighter jet program in the United States and the world. Kumar, an alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, completed his BTech in mechanical engineering in 1989 and later went on to study Materials Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- Boeing International President Marc Allen described Kumar as an exceptional leader who has demonstrated his ability to respond to global customers and to empower his team to collaborate and deliver results.

Udaan, the e-commerce startup is the fastest-ever Indian strat up to become a unicorn

- Mr. Sujeet Kumar an IIT-Delhi alumnus, (B.Tech, 2003) & Co-founder at Udaan.
- The trio Sujeet Kumar, Amod Malviya and Vaibhav Gupta’s announced that their B2B e-commerce startup Udaan had raised $225 million in Series C funding co-led by DST Global and Lightspeed Venture Partners, with capital coming out of the latter’s growth fund.
- The cash infusion, according to Indian media reports, makes Udaan the fastest-ever Indian startup to be valued at over $1 billion.

Zomato acquires food-at-work startup TongueStun for undisclosed amount

- Deepinder Goyal an IIT-Delhi alumnus, (batch, 2005) & Founder & CEO, Zomato Zomato has acquired Bengaluru-based startup TongueStun, which aggregates caterers and restaurants to run cafeterias at corporate offices.
- The food ordering giant did add that it would integrate the startup’s offering within its own service to allow employees at large corporate offices to pick up meals from their own cafeterias.
- This would allow it to acquire an extremely high-frequency use case in the online meals segment.

Oneplus Plans to setup R & D Facility, Further Expands offline Presence in India

- This is the largest and fastest growing market for us. India is going to become our second headquarter after Shenzhen, China. After online, the company is planning to increase offline presence in India by opening large-format experience stores as well as small format authorized stores across key cities.”
Investing in scooter startups is a good decision:

- Mr. Ritesh Banglani an IIT-Delhi alumnus, (B.Tech, 1999) is Tech VC in India at Helion Ventures, Bangalore. With approximately 200 million two-wheelers on road, India is by far the largest market, globally, for motorcycles and scooters.
- A self-drive scooter network can provide an efficient and affordable feeder network, which gets people to and from public transport endpoints quickly and inexpensively.
- The commuters using a wide range of transport options showed high willingness to adopt self-drive scooters. Shared scooters have the opportunity to be India’s most affordable form of motorized transport.

Upwards Fintech raises $5 million from Chinese venture fund Shunwei, others

- Founded in 2017 by IIT Delhi graduates Abhishek Soni (Dual Degree B.Tech, M.Tech, 2011) and Nimesh Verma, (Dual Degree B.Tech, M.Tech, 2014) The company has raised $5 million in a Series A round from Chinese venture fund Shunwei Captial. Existing seed investors India Quotient and Mayfield also participated in the funding round.
- The Mumbai-based start-up plans to utilize the funds to strengthen its technology and data science capabilities and expand to more cities. It is currently present in 30 cities in Tier-1 and Tier-2 towns including Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru and Chennai.

AnitaB.org India & DST, GOI to reward and support women entrepreneurs in India

- Dr. Anita Gupta an alumnus of IIT-Delhi (Ph.D. 1996) & Director and Associate Head Innovation and Entrepreneurship, DST, Govt. of India.
- This organization focused on the advancement of women in technology announced the 8th edition of the Women Entrepreneur Quest (WEQ) 2018.
- Women entrepreneurs who have founded technology startups in India are encouraged to take this opportunity and apply for WEQ 2018.
- This unique contest is for women entrepreneurs with technology startups in India. The Top 10 winners of WEQ 2018 will each receive an all-expenses-paid experiential learning visit to Silicon Valley, US.

Policybazaar Group pumps $50 million in healthcare venture docprime.com

- Ashish Gupta an IIT-Delhi alumnus, (B.Tech, 2001) & CTO at PolicyBazaar, Gurgaon Docprime.com, the latest healthcare venture by Policybazaar Group has received an initial internal funding of $50 million (about Rs 362 crore) from the parent company.
- Docprime.com, allows users to book appointments with doctors and labs through its platform, has partnered up with 14,000 doctors and 5,000 diagnostic labs. It aims to expand its network to 1.50 lakh doctors and 20,000 labs across over 100 cities.
- It allows users to book appointments in Delhi-NCR, also plans to make the facility available across all major cities, including Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai.
Meesho in talks to raise funds from DST Global
- Founded in 2015 by IIT-Delhi graduates Vidit Aatrey (B.Tech, 2012) and Sanjeev Barnwal (B.Tech, 2012) Meesho, one of the fastest growing e-commerce companies in the country, has initiated talks to raise a fresh round of capital from investment company DST Global. Meesho operates as an online marketplace that connects resellers directly with raw material suppliers using social media services such as WhatsApp and Facebook and also connects individual sellers and small businesses with customers.

BigBasket, Grofers revive merger talks
- Grocery startups BigBasket and Grofers have revived talks for a merger as their investors Alibaba Group Holding Ltd and SoftBank Group Corp. Grofers was founded by Abinder Dhindsa, an alumnus of IITD and Saurabh Kumar in 2013 and currently serves 18 cities including Delhi, Pune, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur and Kolkata.
- BigBasket is an Indian online grocery and food products provider, founded in 2011. Headquartered in Bengaluru, the brand is run by Innovative Retail Concepts Private Limited in 30 Indian towns and cities.
- It sells fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and dairy, groceries, and personal care and household items via its website and mobile apps.

New Powerful Mobile Gaming Devices to be Powered by BlueStacks 4
- Rosen Sharma an IIT-Delhi alumnus (B.Tech,1993) & President & CEO at BlueStacks, The company launched in May 2011 & released version 4 of its Gaming Platform and also announced partnerships to bring most powerful Mobile gaming devices to market. It marks a clear evolution of the mobile gaming market. Its headquartered in the United States with offices in Delhi, London, Tokyo, Seoul and over twenty-six other countries. The first version of BlueStacks was released in March 2012. BlueStacks crossed 300 million users in June of 2018.

Fresh out of Y Combinator, Leena AI scores $2M seed round
- Adit Jain Co Founder & CEO at Leena AI, New Delhi is an IIT-Delhi alumnus (B.Tech, 2015) Leena AI, a recent Y Combinator graduate focusing on HR chatbots announced a $2 million seed round today from a variety of investors including Elad Gil and Snapdeal co-founders Kunal Bahl and Rohit Bansal. This seed money is about scaling the company and gaining customers they hope to have 50 enterprise customers within the next 12-18 months.

Macquarie eyeing Goldman Sachs’ ReNew Power stake
- Founded in 2011 by Sumant Sinha, alumnus an IIT-Delhi (B.Tech, 1987) ReNew Power Ventures has 5.85GW capacity across wind and solar projects. Macquarie Group is among investors who have evinced interest in buying a significant stake from Goldman Sachs Group Inc. in Sumant Sinha-founded ReNew Power Ventures Pvt. Ltd. The company planned to raise ₹ 2,600 crore in fresh capital, while existing private equity investors to sell an aggregate of 94.37 million shares, according to the draft prospectus.
Indian Healthcare AI Startup Sigtuple Wins Judges’ Choice at Google’s Demo Day

- Apurv Anand an IIT-Delhi alumnus (B.Tech, 2004) & Co-founder & CTO at Sigtuple Technologies, Bangalore based Sigtuple was given the ‘Judges’ Choice’ award at the Google’s first Demo Day Asia programme held in Shanghai. The company work in using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to support the healthcare system in India.
- It creates AI-based solutions to automate healthcare screening. It has built intelligent screening solutions to aid diagnosis through AI-powered analysis of visual medical data. The start-up also has an AI platform called Manthan, which helps analyse visual medical data efficiently.

IIT Delhi alumnus Kushagra received the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award

- Kushagra Srivastava (B.Tech, 2017) is an alumnus of IIT-Delhi. He received the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award for Conviction to be heled in Louisville, Kentucky, USA on September 20, 2018.
- The mission of this organization is to preserve and share the legacy and ideals of Muhammad Ali to promote respect, hope and understanding and to inspire adults and children everywhere to be as great as they can be.

EANNC to Partner with Psynnovations to Provide Access to Digital Behavioral Health Solutions

- Ritvik Singh (B.Tech, 2003) is an alumnus of IIT-Delhi and Co Founder and CEO at Psynnovations, the developer of the mental and behavioral health platform, wayForward, has announced a multi-year partnership with EANNC, a Western North Carolina based EAP that aims to improve employee wellbeing and health. EANNC will use Psynnovations’ wayForward platform as a core part of their Employee Assistance Program’s (EAP) offering to employers.
- This partnership will allow EANNC to be a “Digital EAP”, supporting employee wellness with digital assessments, evidence-based therapeutic tools, and a coaching platform that are made available instantly via apps and web.
- Psynnovations, based in New York, is comprised of a team of leading researchers, clinicians and behavioral health experts associated with Columbia University, University of Michigan, Yeshiva University, UC San Diego, and a nationwide team of licensed behavioral health providers who also serve as health coaches.

Tinder is slowly rolling out a Bumble-like feature

- Taru Kapoor (Duel Degree B.Tech & M.Tech 2009) and Head, India at Tinder, Inc., Gurgaon Tinder is testing out a feature that, similar to Bumble, allows women more control by being the sole starters of conversations with matches.
- Tinder has rolled out a new feature on its app in India that allows women to limit conversations with male matches to those they choose to start - a female-centric option that draws similarities to rival dating app Bumble.
GIVE BACK TO IIT DELHI

Campaigns/ Individual contributions. IIT Delhi well-wishers have been generous in their contributions towards the Institute following funds have been generated in the last 1.5 years.

1. Class of 66 Batch Endowed Chair Professorship ₹ 56 L
2. HI - TECH CHAIR ₹ 41 L
3. Prof. Kishan & Pramila Gupta Chair (Ajay Gupta) $ 160 K
4. IIT Delhi Giving Day ₹ 24 L
5. Construction Worker Support Campaign ₹ 2.15 L
6. Silver Jubilee Endowment by 1993 Batch ₹ 8.5 L
7. Batch of 1997 Donation ₹ 16 L
8. Golden Jubilee 1967 Batch Donation ₹ 5.2 L
9. IITD CS&E Research Acceleration Fund ₹ 1.7 Cr.
10. Mittal Sports Complex ₹ 2 Cr.
11. STAY-CON ₹ 25 Thousand
12. Wellness Fund ₹ 2.1 L
13. Ramesh & Chanda Kapur Scholarship (Ramesh C Kapur) $ 180 K
   Manohar Lal and Indravati Kapur Scholarship (Ramesh & Chanda Kapur)
   Bihari Lal and Lajwanti Batra Scholarship (Ramesh & Chanda Kapur)
14. Sai Pramod Kumar Atmakuru Scholarship ₹ 5.47 L
15. Ravinder Kumar Rishi Scholarship (Deepti Ravinder Rishi) ₹ 4 L
16. Janak Raj Malhotra Scholarship (Chetan Vohra) $ 31 K
17. Reeba & Pranab Chatterjee Excellence Award (Ajay Chatterjee) $ 5 K
18. Veena Arora Faculty Research Award (Neeraj Arora) $ 65 K
19. Nitin Gupta Award (Kartikeya Gupta) ₹ 1.5 L
20. Sulochana and Colonel A. Krishnaswami Vrc VSM & Bar FLRA (K Ananth Krishnan)
   Prof. K L Chopra for Basic Research Faculty ₹ 60 L
21. Amarjit Bakshi ₹ 1 Cr.
22. Bimal Saroj Charitable Society Scholarship ₹ 20 L
23. Arun Duggal Award ₹ 5 L
24. Alumni Support for Girl Student ₹ 3.96 L
25. Usha Hasteer Chair (Gagan Hasteer) $ 150K
26. Anshul Kumar Professorial Chair ₹ 62 L
27. Tower Research Capital Scholarship (Shastra Trading Service Pvt Ltd.) ₹ 30 L
28. TBO Group Fellowship for Woman (TEK Travels Pvt Ltd) ₹ 8 L
29. Inox Lab ₹ 50 L
30. Inox Scholarship ₹ 20 L
31. Ramboll Subvention Programme ₹ 5.2 L
32. ConsenSys Blockchain Chair ₹ 18 L
33. 1982 Pearl Reunion Endowment Fund ₹ 25 Thousand
34. Janki and K A Iyer Chair (K Ananth Krishnan) ₹ 60 L
UPCOMING EVENTS

1. GOLDEN JUBILEE (1968 BATCH)  
   December 15, 2018

2. ALUMNI DAY  
   December 16, 2018

3. SILVER JUBILEE (1994 BATCH)  
   December 21-22, 2018

4. PEARL REUNION (1984 BATCH)  
   December 28-30, 2018

5. GOLDEN JUBILEE (1969 BATCH)  
   March 08, 2019