IIT Kharagpur to introduce 3 new teaching methods this semester


KOLKATA: IIT Kharagpur has been pioneer in many transformations in the field of engineering academics in India. In a novel initiative to modernize engineering education, IIT Kharagpur will be introducing three new teaching methods: Micro-credits, Peer-assisted Learning, and Project-based Learning. The teaching methods which will be introduced from this Autumn semester and will be applicable to students right from their first year.

Micro-credits will involve 12 hours of teaching or 10 hours of lecture and 5 hours of design/tutorial or 15 hours of design and laboratory component. The duration will be 3 - 14 days including 12 hours of teaching or 10 hours of lecture and 5 hours of design/tutorial or 15 hours of design and laboratory component. Eminent Visiting Expert (to be denoted as Adjunct or Visiting faculty) from national/international academic Institution/industry/R&D Laboratories associated with a faculty member from IIT Kharagpur will be teaching in these courses.

The final grade should be awarded on the basis of at least 50% weightage on End-Semester Examination. In addition to this, long duration course will also be there. Faculty from IIT Kharagpur including a Visiting Faculty who is available throughout the semester will be conducting these courses. The subject will be counted for total credit requirement for completion of degree, if needed. The subject and grade will be mentioned in transcript/grade card and will be used to compute additional CGPA. Failures will be marked by F grade. A student is normally not expected to take more than 2 such courses in a semester. The level of the course taught will be of PhD or MS Research.

IIT KGP wins highest laurels in DST-Lockheed Martin IIGP 2016


KOLKATA: Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-Kgp) has been accorded highest laurels in DST-Lockheed Martin India Innovation Growth Programme (IIGP) 2016, a PAN India Innovators’ Competition held at Federation House (FICCI) in New Delhi.

The Institute has got a total of 30 winners, three of which are for high-impact research which includes real-time fog removal from videos in application to safety and surveillance by Manish Kumar Sharma from Electronics and Communication Engineering department, under guidance of Sudipta Mukhopadhyay, design of microfluidic system for controlled drug delivery by Richa Mishra from Advanced Technology Development Center, under guidance of Tarun Kanti Bhattacharyya and Tapas Kumar Maity and simple low cost processing of metallic foam for diverse applications by Kausik Kapat from School of Medical Science & Technology, under the guidance of Santanu Dhara

All the three winners would receive professional business development assistance from FICCI. Their names would be further nominated under the selected top 10 for Silicon Valley visit for developing suitable business partners to commercialize their products in India as well as global markets.

IIGP is a joint initiative of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, Lockheed Martin Corporation,
Indo-US Science and Technology Forum, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Stanford Graduate School of Business and the IC2 Institute at the University of Texas to accelerate innovative Indian technologies into the global markets using world-class commercialization strategies and the business development assistance. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti, director of IIT-Kgp said "IIT Kharagpur has the culture towards research & innovation excellence. In 2013 allocations were made for special R&D grants. The Institute has also been promoting early induction to research and innovation at all student levels - undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral. Excellence in R&D in academic institutions like IITs is a criterion to contribute to our nation's development and compete with top global universities and IIT Kharagpur has set its target towards it."

Plea for ‘Super 30’ centre in UP

LUCKNOW: Chief minister Akhilesh Yadav has invited Bihar’s ‘Super 30’ founder to set up a centre in the most populous state of the country. The CM, while praising Super 30 founder Anand Kumar’s initiative to provide free coaching, food and accommodation to poor students desirous of cracking IITJEE, promised all help to him in expanding his footprints in UP. “All I want to say that Bihar emulated my government’s laptop scheme and I would like to welcome Super 30 to UP,” the CM said during the launch of a book on Anand Kumar. CM Akhilesh during the launch of a book on Anand Kumar. Kumar had set up the ‘Super 30’ coaching in Bihar in 2002 to provided free coaching, lodging and food to talented poor children desirous of cracking IITJEE. Now, Super 30 is known globally for having helped more than 350 poor students crack the IITJEE. Anand said, “Every year we are getting 2 to 3 students from UP. Considering UP’s growth under chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, we will be getting more such students from this state. Eventually we will have to think of setting up a separate centre.” Responding to the invitation, Anand said, “With the UP CM taking such active interest in helping poor students make it big in life, I have decided to hold a special test in Uttar Pradesh on June 19. The test will be held at 11 centres.” Chief secretary Alok Ranjan said that Anand should focus on ‘Super 30’ coaching for poor students wanting to make it to the civil services as well.

LPU ranked among best engineering institutions

JALANDHAR: LPU has been ranked as one of the top engineering institutions in Punjab and Chandigarh domains at par with top IITs of the country. LPU tops the private sector institutions in whereas; IIT Ropar tops the Public Sector. Popular among all professionals, ‘Career Connect’ magazine has illustrated about this top ranking in its ‘Best Engineering Colleges of India 2016’ issue. Based on various parameters of the overall development of students, LPU has earned five stars as top IITs of India has earned individually in their respective states.
IIM-B, IIIT-B team up to help startups

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIM-B) and the International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIIT-B) on Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding to share expertise in technology and management of startups being incubated in their respective innovation centres.

The institutions will work together to provide technology and business mentorship aimed at helping young technology startups and entrepreneurs achieve sustainable business growth, said a release from IIM-B. NSRCEL nurtures early stage startups and currently incubates 18 companies focused on providing scalable and sustainable solutions. “I am sure this collaboration will be a win-win situation,” said Professor R Srivivasan, Director In-charge, IIM-B.
UGC blinks on performance indicators

Hopes To End Strike By Teachers

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New Delhi: On a day when HRD ministry decided to notify seventh pay commission for university teachers, highly placed sources said University Grants Commission is also likely to further amend regulations regarding Academic Performance Indicators (API) accepting major demands of university teachers.

Sources said, “This is likely to put an end to agitation by teachers.”

Though the formal announcement about amendments on API will take a few more days, sources said, after “internal review and external consultations it has been decided to further amend the regulations”.

One, there will be no change in workload. This means assistant professor will have to teach 16 hours per week, associate professors and professors will have to log in 14 hours of teaching. Direct teaching hours will include tutorials, hours spent on practicals/project supervision. All this will be counted at par with the lectures. API scoring on direct teaching can be achieved by teachers through lectures, practicals, tutorials and project supervision.

As for academic journals to be listed by UGC, the likely revision will be that universities can also recommend other journals not in the list. Standing committee of UGC will take a time bound decision on including these journals in the list.

Most importantly, capping of API scores will be removed. API scores will not be the benchmark for promotions. It is likely that promotions will be based on the existing system prevalent in universities.

As for the seventh pay commission, it will also look into examination of service conditions, objective methods of annual evaluation, career progression and other issues.