



NIRMA
UNIVERSITY

Nirma University

Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter

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News at a Glance

Awards



IT-NU wins National Level Robocon 2015 for the Seventh Time

The Robocon Team of IT-NU has bagged the Championship Trophy in the National Level Robocon-2015 Competition jointly organized by MAEER'S Maharashtra Academy of Engineering, Alandi and Doordarshan, held at Pune during March 5-7, 2015. The team has won the National Competition for the seventh time. It will now represent India at the International Robocon 2015 competition to be held in Indonesia during the months of July-August 2015.

ISTE Awards

IT-NU has been awarded State Level Best Faculty Chapter and State Level Best Student Chapter of ISTE Gujarat Section on the basis of activities carried out during the year 2014. The presentation of ISTE Awards was made during the Inaugural Function of Nineteenth ISTE Annual Gujarat State Convention on January 1, 2015.



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From The Director General's Desk

Educational institutions are primarily in the enterprise of instruction. Institution builders, therefore, have to focus on excellence in instruction with a view to build formidable institutions. Students attend an institution for getting quality instruction. Alumni marvel at their iconic instructors. Educational leaders boast of their high calibre faculty.

Nirma University emphasizes on teaching-learning process in addition to student-centricity, faculty development, auditing of the teaching-learning process, availability of relevant teaching resources, supportive culture, and rewards for quality teaching to achieve institutional excellence.

The University consistently puts in efforts to attract, select and retain competent faculty. Further the University is putting in efforts to go beyond the classroom teaching and stress upon the total learning experience of the students. The student is treated as a total person and all out efforts are being made to grow him holistically. Therefore it may be stated here that Nirma University is a student-focussed and faculty-driven institution. There is an umpteen focus on faculty development as it enhances instructional excellence. Keeping the same in view various initiatives have been planned in-line for the next academic session. The endeavour is also to provide the faculty a platform to acquire in-depth subject knowledge which in turn would facilitate the learning of students. Consistent efforts are being made through faculty development initiatives to help the faculty acquire a deeper understanding of the learning process, implement various facilitation methods and become adept in different formative and summative assessment techniques. In addition, they also learn about the recent developments in education.

In addition the faculty development programmes being organised at the University also impart domain knowledge and skills through competent professionals and works round the year to develop the faculty as a group. The faculty is motivated to do better academically and also to collaborate to work on various research projects, consulting assignments and institutional tasks. Research is a public good and has long-term impact. It helps in creating a knowledge-based society. It also solves the short-term and long-term problems of the society. While higher education is more of a private good, research is surely a public good. This is why the University focuses on research and knowledge sharing. As a research-oriented institution, the University is working to develop sustainable research that would contribute to the society and provide solutions to challenging problems. Besides the faculty of the University is also significantly contributing through research publications and have attracted significant funding through grants by government funding agencies.

Auditing of the teaching-learning process is essential for the continuous improvement of student learning. Improvement emanates from feedback. Auditing of classroom teaching by peers provides useful feedback to a faculty member to learn about his strengths and weaknesses. Further, a summary of feedback provided to various faculty can be used in designing and developing numerous faculty development programmes. Auditing of question papers and answer sheets can help faculty better the assessment process. There a feed-back mechanism in place at the University and a three tier Academic Audit shall be functional in the ensuing academic session.

I hope that you would find this issue of the Newsletter interesting and informative, Happy Reading

Anup K. Singh, PhD

Director General, Nirma University



Editorial

University enjoys rebirth every year and every semester. Influx of new students imbues new spirit, enthusiasm, possibilities and spark to one and all.

The last quarter, campus was bustling with seminars, conferences, tech-fests, cul-fests and other events. On one side we bagged generous amount of research grants from various agencies and also provided consultancy as per the industrial demand on the other hand students were bringing laurels home. We are 7th time National Robocon Winner!

Since few years we have been very robust in dynamically implementing globally recognized curriculum and teaching-learning methodology, and embraced Outcome Based Education with full spirit. We are assertively assessing the promise we made and the delivery we planned. As said by Albert Einstein, "Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." We do believe in this allegory and try to nurture and hand-hold student by providing focussed attention and mentoring among other initiatives. Along with summative evaluation which is static in nature, we are practicing formative assessment in all earnest. It evaluates the progress toward stated objectives, but also provides information regarding changes in performance, or needed improvements to one's proper "course" toward attainment of goals.

Winning recognitions, awards, rankings, laurels only show our commitment to provide experiential learning and giving them exposure in all level. It shows our growth is well charted and at the right trajectory.

Editor

Other News

Best B-School Award

IM-NU was conferred with 'Best B-School with Innovative Marketing to the Target Segment' by Seventh DNA and Stars of the Industry Group on February 18, 2015 at Mumbai.



Rankings

IM-NU has been ranked as the 25th Best B-School by a survey published in Business India, December, 2014.

IL-NU has been ranked Fourth among Best Young Law Schools by Career 360 Magazine published in January 2015.

MoU Signed

IM-NU has signed a MoU with National Institute of Securities Markets on January 12, 2015 during the Vibrant Gujarat Summit, Gandhinagar.



New Initiatives

Faculty Development Programme (FDP)

With the objective to strengthen the quality of teaching, the University Academic Development and Research (ADR) Cell has introduced Faculty Development Programmes at four fronts comprising: Induction Training Programme for four weeks for the newly recruited faculty with the aim to make

them comfortable before they go to class for teaching; Orientation Programme with the view to enhance the skills of teaching and research for the faculty who have completed two years of teaching; Refresher Programme under different disciplines for two weeks to enrich the faculty with the latest knowledge in the relevant discipline and Research Orientation for two weeks to cater to the needs of developing skills of writing proposals for research, publication of papers, research methodology and all relevant activities.

Academic Audit

To ensure the continuous process of strengthening the quality of education a three tier academic audit has been introduced. At tier first the mechanism of constant monitoring of junior faculty to develop teaching ability by the seniors working in the departments / institutions concerned has been devised. The second level academic audit is meant for evaluation of the different academic processes undertaken, by the independent committee also comprising an invited external expert. The third and final level of audit is to be undertaken by the University Level Committee with the objective to conduct over all academic audit of the constituent institutes of the University also including the audits done at the first and second levels.

Funding of Minor Research Projects by the University

The University has been funding upto rupees one lac per project to the faculty members to conduct Minor Research Projects since several years. This is with a view to strengthen the capability of faculty particularly newly recruited faculty members to conduct research. In furtherance, the University, from the academic year 2015-2016 will implement the scheme of funding Major Research Projects upto rupees thirty lacs per project for which the rules have been framed.

Introducing Incentives and Awards to recognize the outstanding contribution by the faculty in the field of Teaching and Research

The University has already framed the scheme for appreciating the contribution by the faculty in the field of teaching and research based on the level of contribution. The award or incentive shall be given under a mechanism developed under the scheme.

Accreditation

The University has completed five years of its first accreditation conducted by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and is in the process of getting re-accreditation through NAAC. The SSR (Self-Study Report) has already been finalized under the guidance of Steering Committee and ADR Cell. The Peer-Team Visit might take place during the month of July 2015.

Dignitaries on Campus



Dr Jayanta Mandal, CEO, FTF, Pharma Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad visited IP-NU on December 11, 2014.



Shri Ashish Chauhan, MD & CEO, Bombay Stock Exchange, Mumbai visited IM-NU on February 6, 2015 and spoke on 'Indian Capital Market Evolution and Path Forward'.



Mr. Subroto Bagchi, CEO and Founder, MindTree Ltd, Bangalore talked on 'Organisational Environment' at IM-NU on February 6, 2015.

Distinguished Guests

Dr Faye Murrin, Dean of Graduate Studies, Memorial University and Ms. Andrew Kim, Director, Graduate Enrolment Services, Memorial University of New Foundland, Canada visited IT-NU on January 12, 2015.



Dr Faye Murrin with Dr K. Kotecha, Director IT-NU

Dr AllaaAbd El Aziz, President and Dr Barbara Campbell, Director-International Relations, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada visited IT-NU on January 13, 2015.



Dr AllaaAbd El Aziz and Dr Barbara Campbell with Dr K Kotecha and an Alumni of IT-NU

Prof. Stan Scott, (Seen third from the left in the photograph) Head-School of EECS, Queens University, Belfast (Northern Ireland, UK) was invited to deliver an Expert talk on 'Research and Opportunities in Cyber Security' at IT-NU on February 3, 2015.



Expert Lectures by Eminent Guests on Campus

Name of the Expert, Designation and Organization	Topic	Institute	Date
Dr Pavan Kumar, Head, F & D, Intas Pharma Ltd., Ahmedabad	An Insight on Practical Aspects of QbD in Product Development	IP-NU	December 12, 2014
Mr. Rasesh Vyas, AVP, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.	Insurance Sector in India	IM-NU	December 13, 2014
Dr Sushrut Kulkarni, Sr. Vice President & Head, Zydus Cadila, Ahmedabad	Quality by Design for Solid Dosage Forms	IP-NU	December 13, 2014
Dr Balwant Singh Chauhan, Roosevelt University, USA	A Look into Pharmacogenomics (Personalized Medicine)	IP-NU	December 16, 2014
Mr. Ragvendra Shenoy, VP, Ethicon Surgical Care (a subsidiary of Johnson and Johnson)	Creating Access to Quality Healthcare in India	IM-NU	December 18, 2014
Prof. Ganesh N. Devy, Chair, People's Linguistic Survey of India, Bhasha Research and Publication Centre	Colonialism and Crime: The Case of the Denotified Communities	IL-NU	January 7, 2015
Prof. Gregory Maurer, Patent Attorney, Klarquist Sparkman, LLP (US)	Patents : an Interactive Look at the Written Description Requirement	IL-NU	January 8, 2015
Prof. Pradip Khandwala, Former Director, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad	Creative Society: Prospects for India	IL-NU	January 9, 2015
Dr V. G. Girish, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul - S. Korea	Korean Management Practices	IM-NU	January 12, 2015
Prof. Sunder Ram Korivi, Dean, National Institute of Securities Market, An Educational Initiative of SEBI	Fusion between Finance and Legislation	IM-NU	January 12, 2015
Mr Anil Kumar Misra, VP & Head- HR, JustDial.com, Bangalore	Challenges of Managing Talent in Knowledge Industry	IM-NU	January 17, 2015
Dr Samir Shah, Associate Clinical Professor, LeBow College of Business, Drexel University, Philadelphia, USA	IT Project Management	IM-NU	January 21, 2015
Mr. Jayesh Gandhi, Director, H K Automation, Ahmedabad	Power Plant Automation	IT-NU	January 22, 2015
Dr PratiPal Singh, Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, NIPER, SAS Nagar, Punjab	Genomics and the Discovery of New Anti-Malarial Drugs	IP-NU	January 22, 2015
Dr Shridhar Narayanan, Director, Foundation for Neglected Disease Research, Bangalore	Challenges and Opportunities in TB Research	IP-NU	January 22, 2015
Ms. Monita Ghoshal, Director - Nielsen Neuro, Mumbai	Neuro-Marketing in India	IM-NU	January 23, 2015

Prof. Dr M N Mehta, Professor & Head, Department of Applied Mathematics & Humanities, SVNIT, Surat	Mathematical Modelling on Instability Phenomenon arising in Inclined Homogeneous Porous Media	IT-NU	January 23, 2015
Dr P. M. S. Chauhan, Senior Principal Scientist, Medicinal and Process, Chemistry Division, CDRI, Lucknow	Perspectives and Challenges in Drug Research: Design and Synthesis of Nitrogen Heterocycles as Novel Anti-Infectious Agents	IP-NU	January 23, 2015
Dr Prathama Mainkar, Fellow QRS, Division of Natural Products Chemistry, CSIR-IICT, Hyderabad	Automation, Sample Management and Random Screening : Towards a Successful Lead Discovery	IP-NU	January 23, 2015
Mr. Y. B. Acharya, Senior Scientist, PRL	Introduction to Sensors	IT-NU	January 27, 2015
Dr Chetan Parikh, Professor and Head, Institute of Information and Communication, Ahmedabad University	Low Power Amplifier Design	IT-NU	February 2, 2015
Mr. A.C. Mathur, Group Head, SAC-ISRO, Ahmedabad	Expectations from Mechanical Engineers for Space Applications	IT-NU	February 2, 2015
Mr. Muffazal Arsiwalla VP, Deutsche Bank Mumbai	The Changing Face of Investment Banking	IM-NU	February 5, 2015
Dr Himanshu Soni, Principal, G. H. Patel College of Engineering and Technology, V. V. Nagar	Ultra Wideband Communication	IT-NU	February 11, 2015
Mr. J.R. Arora, Consultant, Thermal Power Station, Wanakbori	Boiler Operation and Maintenance	IT-NU	February 19, 2015
Dr Amit Johrapurkar, Deputy General Manager, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology, Zydus Research Center, Ahmedabad	Challenges and Opportunities in Diabetes Drug Discovery	IP-NU	February 21, 2015



Mr. A. C. Mathur at IT-NU



Prof. Ganesh N. Devy at IL-NU



Mr. Anil Kumar Misra at IM-NU



Mr. Ragvendra Shenoy at IM-NU



Prof. Pradip Khandwala at IL-NU



Prof. Gregory Maurer at IL-NU

Events

NICOM 2015



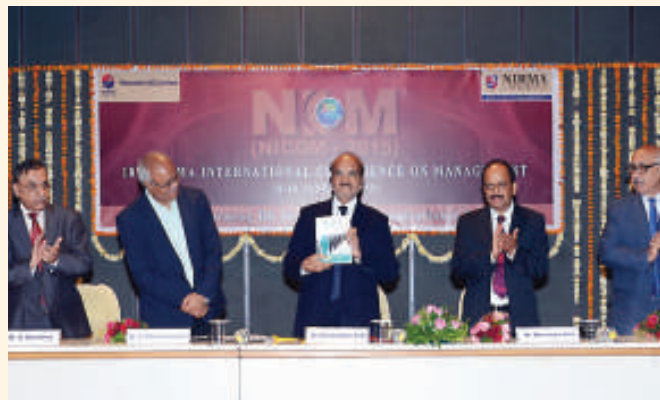
Seen on the dais (R-L) Dr Karsanbhai K Patel, President, Nirma University; Dr S. Chandrasekhar, President and Global Head- HR, Dr Reddy's Laboratory; Prof. S. Garimella, Director IM-NU and Mr. Maheshwar Sahu, Chairman, Gujarat State CSR Authority addressing the gathering

Nirma International Conference on Management (NICOM) 2015 was held during January 8-10, 2015. The theme of the conference was 'Transforming HR for Enhanced Organizational Capability'. The conference was inaugurated on January 8, 2015 by the Chief Guest Dr S Chandrasekhar, President and Global Head- HR, Dr Reddy's Laboratory and Mr. Maheshwar Sahu, Chairman, Gujarat State CSR Authority as the Guest of Honour. The inaugural function was also graced by Dr Karsanbhai K. Patel, President, Nirma University.

A number of papers from India, Sri Lanka, Kampala, Pakistan and Bangladesh were presented in the four plenary sessions where lectures were delivered by reputed national and international speakers as Mr. Sushant Vats, Advisor-HR, HAL; Mr. M. Rama Krishna, Managing Director, ZCS Consulting Ltd; Mr. Siddhartha Naga, Chief People Officer & Business Development (New Markets), Cloud Nine; Mr. G Girinarayan, Country Leader-HR Terex India Pvt. Ltd; Mr. Pankaj Sinha, Associate VP, Hindustan Coca- Cola Beverages Pvt Ltd; Mr. Himank Priyadarshi, VP-HR, Adani; Prof. Su Che-Jen, Fu Jen University, Taipei; Mr. H.N. Shrinivas, Sr. V.P. Taj Group of

Hotels; Mr. A. K. Bhaduri, Director-HR IIFCO and Mr. Pratap Ramdas, CSR Head, Tata Global Beverages Ltd

Mr. Prashant Sharma, Group President- HR and Corporate Communications, and the Guest of Honour, Ms. Kanchan Manyam, Additional GM-HR, Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Ltd. delivered the valedictory address at the concluding session of the conference.



Dr Karsanbhai K. Patel, President, NU launching a book during the inaugural function of the conference

Second International Conference on Global Diaspora

The Second International Conference on Global Diaspora was held on January 10 and 11, 2015 at IM- NU. The conference was organised jointly by Nirma University, Ahmedabad; World Association of Global Diaspora Studies; Research Centre for Overseas Korean Business and Culture; Chonnam National University at Gwangju, South Korea and the State University of New York, Binghamton, USA.

The inaugural session was chaired by Dr Anup Singh, Director General, Nirma University. Professor Manas Chatterji, State University of New York, Binghamton and Dr Yoginer Alagh, Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat, gave their valuable insights on the subject. The other prominent speakers were Professor John Chaffee, State University of New York, Binghamton; Professor Brij Maharaj, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa; Prof. P.M. Kamath, Honorary Director, VPM's Centre for International Affairs, University of Mumbai; Professor R. G. Gidadhubli, Former Director, Centre for Central Eurasian Studies, University of Mumbai; Professor S. I. Rajan, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala; Professor V. Mohan, VPM's Centre for International Affairs, Mumbai and Dr S. Iyengar, Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapith.



A glimpse of the conference at IM-NU

National Conference of IP-NU

National Conference of Institute of Pharmacy (NCIP 2015) on the theme 'Infectious Diseases: Challenges and Opportunities in Research and Practice' was organized at the Institute during January 22-23, 2015. Dr A. Mukhopadhyay, Scientist G, Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi was the chief guest for the inaugural function. In his address he discussed the challenges ahead to combat various infectious diseases and importance of research and development of newer molecules for the same. Dr Anup

Singh, Director General, Nirma University presided over the function and shared his views on the infectious diseases. Shri K. K. Patel, COO and Vice-President (I/c), Nirma University also graced the occasion. More than 100 young scientists from different disciplines of pharmacy, medical and allied sciences participated in the national conference.



Seen Left- Right: Prof. Manjunath Ghate, Director IP-NU, Shri K. K. Patel, COO and Vice-President (I/c), NU; Dr A. Mukhopadhyay, Scientist G, DST and Dr Anup Singh, Director General, NU on the dais during the Conference at IP-NU

National Seminar on Law, Science and Technology

The seminar was organized by IL-NU with the support of NSERB India, Department of Science and Technology, State of Gujarat and the Gujarat Council of Science and Technology on the theme-Law, Science and Technology: The Way Forward on January 30 and 31, 2015. The inaugural function was graced by Dr R. R. Hanichal, Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights' Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India; Dr N. R. Madhvamenon, IBA-CLE, Chair in Continuing Legal



Dr N. R. Madhvamenon, IBA-CLE, Chair in Continuing Legal Education, NLSIU; Dr R. R. Hanichal, Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights' Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, Shri D. P. Chhaya, Director (A&GA), NU and Dr Purvi Pokhariyal, Director IL-NU during the lighting of the lamp

Education, NLSIU, Bangalore and Shri D. P. Chhaya, Director (A&GA), NU. The welcome address was delivered by Dr Purvi Pokhariyal, Director, IL-NU. The seminar's highlighting point was connecting with Mr. Sam Pitroda from Chicago through video conferencing. Mr. Sam Pitroda, Entrepreneur, Policy Maker and Inventor, set the context of his talk by highlighting that we live in the 19th century with the 20th century process and 21st century technology and in this epoch there is a pressing need to create a global platform for patents with the sole reason that technology is changing faster than our laws.

Prathidhwani 2015: The Alumni Conclave

The Conclave was held on February 7, 2015 at IM-NU. The theme of the conclave was 'India: A Spectrum of Opportunities'. The Alumni Conclave was an endeavour by IM-NU to bring together its alumni on a common platform to share their experiences with current students. The inaugural session was addressed by Mr. Amit Dubey-National Sales Manager, Mahindra & Mahindra. The other speakers of the conclave were Ms Debasmitta Sahoo, Entrepreneur; Mr. Rajat Dang, Senior Manager, Abbott Healthcare Back; Ms. Manuba Sharma, Associate Vice President-Jones Lang LaSalle; Mr. Pramesh Parikh, Vice President, AON Global Insurance Brokers Pvt Ltd. and Mr. Saurav Gupta, AVP & Head of Finance, India at Thomson Reuters. The valedictory session was conducted by Mr. Sukhvinder Singh, Libero Sports India.



Alumni Conclave at IM-NU

Visit of Delegation from HoF University, Germany

A delegation from the HoF University of Applied Sciences, Germany comprising Prof. Dinesh Patel along with Prof. Boerner, Prof. Schmola and twenty three students from the undergraduate and post-graduate programmes of the University visited IM-NU on December 16, 2014. The students of the Institute made presentations on Indian

Culture and economy followed by live performance by Club Fiesta. There was also a presentation by the students of HoF University on German Culture.



The delegates from HoF University at IM-NU

Fourth National Students Conference on International Humanitarian Law

IL-NU in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) organized the Fourth National Students' Conference on International Humanitarian Law on February 20, 2015. The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Vesselin Popovski, Vice Dean of Jindal Global Law School, Prof. S. Shantha Kumar, Dean, Faculty of Law, SGT University and Dr Anuradha Saibaba, Legal Advisor, ICRC. Shri K. K. Patel, COO and Vice-President (I/c), NU and Dr Purvi Pokhariyal, Director, IL-NU also graced the occasion. The objective of the conference was to allow the budding lawyers and legal professionals to not only engage in understanding the legal and practical intricacies of International Humanitarian Law but also to explore the potential ways forward. The conference saw the participation of 46 participants from 13 universities across 8 states.



Prof. Vesselin Popovski, Prof. Purvi Pokhariyal, Shri K. K. Patel with other dignitaries during the Conference

National Science Day Celebration

IS-NU organized 'National Science Day Celebration' sponsored by GUJCOST on February 28, 2015. Dr Asis Datta, Founder Director & Professor of Eminence, National Institute of Plant Genome Research and Former Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi was the Chief Guest. He delivered a lecture on 'Dream to bring Science to Society'.

Distinguished and eminent scientists were invited for Panel discussion with the special theme 'Research in Education'. Dr Bharat Chattoo, Professor of Molecular Genetics, Department of Microbiology, M.S.U, Baroda was the moderator of the panel discussion. Dr Asis Datta, NIPGR, New Delhi; Dr C.J. Shisoo, Honorary Director, B. V. Patel Pharmaceutical Education and Research Development (PERD) Centre, Ahmedabad and Dr Anjana Desai, Professor, Microbiology, M.S.U, Baroda were the panellists.



Prof. Asis Datta addressing the audience at IS-NU

NirmaQuest 2015

The National Level Quiz Competition- NirmaQuest 2015 was organized at IP-NU on January 21, 2015. In addition to pharma quiz, another quiz was also introduced for non-pharma students. The quiz competition was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Shri Sunil Parekh, Strategic Advisor to various



Participants during NirmaQuest at IP-NU

reputed companies. In his inaugural address he motivated the students to face global challenges and expressed hope and optimism about the future led by the youth. More than 60 participants participated in the quiz competition from various colleges across Gujarat.

Winter Relative Study Programme

As part of curriculum, the study programme was organized by IA-NU from December 15 to 31, 2014 for the students to Hajipur. An intensive study of the area surrounding and habitat settlement was done along with measure drawings of the constructed houses. The studio was compiled into detailed documentation of the study including hand drawings, joinery details and models. The students of IA-NU also distributed colour pencils and sketchbooks to the children studying in Hajipur Primary School in the vicinity.



Prof. Utpal Sharma, Director, IA-NU and the students of the Institute at Hajipur Primary School

Women in Engineering (WIE) Meet

WIE Gujarat Section and IT-NU jointly organized a WIE Meet to understand and encourage the 'Role of Women in Engineering Field' at IT-NU on December 20, 2014 followed by an expert talk from Ms. Gitam Shikkenawis and Dr Suman Mitra on 'Pattern Recognition on Visual Big Data: Challenges and Opportunities'.



A glimpse of the Women's Meet at IT-NU

Shaktiyoga Ashram Residential Workshop

The students of IA-NU attended a three-day residential workshop at the Shaktiyoga Ashram near Lonavala during February 15-18, 2015. Organized by well-known Indian classical dancer, Ms. Mandakini Trivedi, it included lecture-demonstrations on concepts of Language of Indian Dance, Ravindra Smriti, Temple in the Ear, Aesthetics and Space, Nature and Architecture etc. Among other invited artists and professionals were Educationist and Bharatnatayam Dancer-Vandana Alase Hazra, Poet and Hindustani Khayal singer Pandit Anand Thakore and environmentalist Mr. Prashant Mahajan and Ms. Sudha Iyer. The environment of the ashram, amidst nature and the hills, away from distractions, ensured a highly energizing immersive learning experience.



The students of IA-NU at Shaktiyoga Ashram

Awareness Programme on Human Rights

On the occasion of World Human Rights Day on December 10, 2014, IL-NU in association with Gujarat State Human Rights Commission, conducted an awareness programme on Human Rights, especially for the students of IP-NU. Hon'ble Dr Justice J. N. Bhatt, Chairman, Gujarat State Human Rights Commission, Former Chief Justice, Gujarat High Court and Patna High Court was the Chief Guest of the function. A student team performed a skit and presented documentary films on 'Human Rights'.



Gender Awareness Workshop

IL-NU under the Women Development Cell (WDC) of Nirma University organized a one-day workshop on Gender Awareness on December 27, 2014. Ms. Flavia Agnes, renowned feminist and activist from Mumbai was one of the Key note speakers of the workshop and delivered the lecture on the topic 'Gender at workplace and Inclusion and Exclusion- A Gender Perspective'. The other key note speaker, Mrs. Meera Ramniwas, Inspector General of Police (Women Cell in CID-Crime) delivered a lecture on the topic 'Sensitizing Civil Society to Gender Concerns'. The faculty and staff members of the University participated in the workshop.



Mrs. Meera Ramniwas, IG Police, (Women Cell, CID- Crime) delivering the lecture during the Workshop

Felicitation Ceremony at IL-NU

To appreciate the performances of the students who represented the Institute in various moot courts and debate competitions, the Institute felicitated the students on February 13, 2015 and congratulated them for their excellent performances.

Discussion Sessions at IL-NU

A panel discussion on February 10, 2015 on the topic 'Present Government Perception and Reality' was scheduled at IL-NU. Mr. VRS Cowlagi, Former Secretary of various departments, Government of Gujarat and Prof. Rohit Shukla, Eminent Academician and Economist graced the event as panellists. Another discussion session on February 13, 2015 on the topic 'Enforcement of Contractual Restrictions on Transferability of Shares' was also scheduled at IL-NU.

FDP

A half-day workshop was organized on 'Data Analysis' on February 5, 2015 for the faculty members of IM-NU. Dr Arnab Laha, IIM, Ahmedabad conducted the workshop on how to analyse the collected data for a research project.

In Focus

LEARNING TO LEARN

D.P. Chhaya- Director (Academic & General Administration), Nirma University

Though not an academican yet an administrator for various universities from past 40 years, I have had an opportunity to witness growth of various activities of different universities including the teaching learning process. There has been a tremendous growth since independence in the Institutions of Higher Learning. The objects and expectations of the Institutions of higher learning have also changed. This is because of the marathon exercise done by the different government commissions constituted after independence to revamp the education system. I had an opportunity to go through the same at a glance. All the commissions have given different recommendations more or less on the lines of the vision of Pandit Nehru and aims quoted below.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru post-independence said, **“University Education stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason for adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards even higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duties adequately then it is well with the Nation and the people.”**

Earlier the objects or expectations of a university were limited to Teaching, Research and Extension but, now because of above exercise of the commissions, perhaps some of the aims of Higher Education may also be arrived as under:

- **Pursuit of Knowledge of Self, Society and Nature**
- **Enriching the Mind and promoting Creativity among people**
- **Improving the Efficiency and Productivity of the Social Production System**
- **Empowering people through development of Knowledge, Skills and Values**

The above aims of an Institute of Higher Learning clearly depict that the weightage is given in most of the

documents about enriching the minds by promoting creativity, efficiency, productivity, social production system, empowering people through development of knowledge, skills, values, creativity together, which can be developed through learning only and not only by study through teaching (education).



If this is the fact then naturally one would wonder as to whether teaching and learning are the same or learning is a higher version of teaching or it is something else. It has been aptly quoted by Dr Albert Einstein, **“I never teach my pupil. I only attempt to provide the condition in which they can learn.”**

Different people have given different definitions of learning as under:

- i. Learning is a change in behaviour due to experience.
- ii. Learning occurs when experience causes a relatively permanent change in an individual's knowledge or behaviour.
- iii. Learning is a persisting change in human performance potential.

According to me, **“Learning is a tool which empowers to get skills to gain knowledge, to have critical thinking, to develop understanding, to analyse systematically and logically and come to constructive conclusion on the knowledge gained, which develops creativity that ultimately leads to achieve sustainable growth, consistent quality and assured value.”**

These definitions taken together focus on few key words viz: behaviour, knowledge, critical thinking, understanding, performance, persisting change i.e. constant updating,

concentrated experience etc. Hence learning has to comply all the above keywords together and not in isolation of each other. It is perhaps general perception in the society that to gain knowledge is to learn. According to me it may not be true in the real sense but it is one of the tools to go for learning.

In one of the reports of the UNESCO commission constituted under leadership of Mr. M.S. Jacquen Dollar, the four main pillars of education are identified as 4 Ls which are:

1. Learn to Know: The techniques how to learn and discover
2. Learn to Do: Apply and percolate the learning down the line
3. Learning to be: Updating knowledge, throughout the life by adopting techniques of learning and developing a process of continuously updating the skill as narrated earlier. In this context I quote a statement of Dr Robin Sharma: "As you grow more you can see more and as you know more you can achieve more."
4. Learning to Live Together: Nobody can learn in isolation. If we develop mechanism to learn together then the spectrum of learning will broaden. Hence the utmost weightage is given to this pillar.

To substantiate this I quote: "When you talk you are only repeating what you know but if you listen others and discuss you may learn something new" – Dalai Lama

Teaching:

The question which now arises is- what is teaching? According to me, "Teaching is imparted in class room and laboratory or through distance education mode under the fixed frame work or/and syllabus with prescribed teaching material and methodology. Learning has no barrier of this kind. Teaching provides information and knowledge to proceed further towards learning".

Dr Aristotle has said: "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education." Many of the students and the parents are of the perception that going for education is to get a degree. Hence, the system has been most of the time Degree and Examination oriented instead of being learning oriented. The struggle has been going on to make it more learning oriented by taking different measures by a few institutions and not thoroughly digested as a part of the system throughout. Can we call it Learning? We know that eminent Judges, Lawyers, professionals and Academicians in the field of law and in other fields have emerged in the same system. But because they on the basis of knowledge or information gained during the study proceeded further towards different techniques of learning including concentrated experience which is also one of the important

technique plus adopting many other techniques narrated below and they converted teaching into learning.

However it is observed at many places that some of the candidates having postgraduate degrees or PhDs in different fields do not know the basics of a subject. I, as a panel member in interviews for different positions in administration, have observed that the candidates having Masters Degree in Law with constitution do not have the basic knowledge of Constitution of India. Many such examples can be given in other fields too. Can we call it learning?

On the basis of above two distinct situations we may perhaps be able to understand the difference between teaching and learning.

It has been observed many times that there has always been a gap between competence and capability. By studying, most of the time one may get the competence for prescribed theory but not 100% capability. For developing capability and to bring excellence in practice on the basis of teaching one needs to adopt four pillars of learning and convert teaching into learning. Somebody has rightly said: "The difference between mediocrity and excellence is attention to detail."

Categories of Learning:

The question may also arise, when we talk about learning, as to whether it is restricted only to academic learning? Looking to the definition which we discussed the learning can be categorized as under:

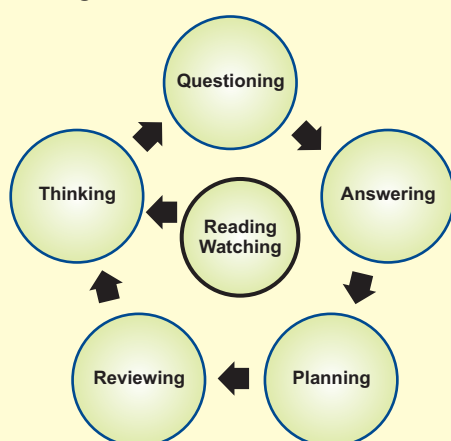
- Learning of Values and Ethics
- Learning of developing 3 Ps i.e. Politeness, Positivity and Patience
- Learning of development of Professionalism through Innovation
- Learning of Subject Knowledge
- Learning of Development of Mechanism of Continuous Process of learning
- Learning to learn to convert teaching into learning
- Learning to develop Techniques of motivating students partner to learn
- Learning to conduct Research and generate Knowledge
- Learning to get assured value, consistent quality and sustainable growth

Shri Ramsharma Acharya has said that, "शिक्षा तो कहीं भी मिल सकती है पर विद्या के सूत्र कहीं कहीं से मिलते हैं"

Techniques of Transfer of Teaching into Learning:

In addition to the four pillars which have been mentioned earlier, the following techniques may also be thought of:

- (i) **Taking help of four friends:** what, why, when & how: With the help of these friends, set down the knowledge/information gained in the form of mind MAP and identify GAP in the knowledge/information.
- (ii) **Effective reading and watching with the purpose of Learning:** Normally we read or watch something either as a leisure activity or for enhancing knowledge. Reading or watching for enhancing knowledge should be with the purpose of learning. Hence, such reading or watching should be followed in the order as under:



- (iii) **Concentrated Study, Practice and Experience:** If what has been studied is practiced in a more concentrated way, one would be able to analyze the knowledge and develop more understanding. Based on that we try to innovate and bring changes to update knowledge and wisdom in the concerned field.

If we have the spirit of understanding and if it is taken in a proper way we can enjoy every second of our learning, even if it is under pressure. Concentration is the secret of strength.

- (iv) **Making the Teaching Interactive:** Lesson planning or the topics which are to be taught in class room should be circulated well in advance with a list of study materials of different kinds. This way the students should be allowed to come prepared and then discuss and interact in a group and develop understanding thoroughly about the topic.
- (v) **Two-way Traffic:** Teaching-learning process is a two-way traffic. Both teacher and student are equal partners when they are involved in the process and hence when teacher repeats what he knows he should be ready to listen, react, analyze and learn something from the other side too.

- (vi) **Structured and Continuous Monitoring Mechanism for Self-Learning:** One has to develop structured and continuous monitoring mechanism for self-learning. It is true for all in general and particularly for the teachers and students. Unless this part is taken care of, first by teacher and subsequently by influencing the student to adopt the same, teaching-learning process is incomplete.

- (vii) **Use of Technology:** Due to the rapid development of technology many tools are readily available to make learning easy. Hence we should develop our self-comfort to go towards learning through e-learning and exploit maximum use by having following practice:

- Learning and Technology
- Learning from Technology
- Learning in Technology
- Learning with Technology

- (viii) **Open to Criticism and Change:** I know-it-all perception hinders learning. One should be open to criticism and after having thorough analysis subsequent changes in attitude, aptitude, performance, behaviour etc. may be adopted.

- (ix) **Observance of 4Ds-Determination, Discipline, Dedication and Devotion:** When teaching is to be converted into learning all of the above 4Ds are mandatory to be observed.

The discussion though not absolute on learning, may be summarized as

- To understand Learning is a complex issue
- Many more things can be discussed and deliberated
- Many more techniques can be searched, researched and disseminated
- Converting teaching into learning is a challenging task
- Learning should lead to uplift of socio-economic and cultural development of the society through individual's overall development which is possible through learning.

Lastly I would like to quote a favourite Gujarati quotation:
"The sea is anxious to give all but we have stood before it with a spoon to accept all which it wants to give."
 (Translated)

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- (2) Article by Mr. Sanjay Mishra, Director, Commonwealth Education Media Centre for Asia entitled "Learning through Technology" in AIU News Letter.

Research & Development

Institute	Area of Research	Name of Faculty	Title of Research	Funding Agency	Amount in Rs. in Lacs
IP-NU	Nanotechnology	Dr Sanjeev Acharya Dr Niyati Acharya	Glutathione Appended Polymeric Nanoconstructs of Asiatic Acid for Efficacious Neuroprotection against Alzheimer's Disease	Department of Biotechnology	45.56

Extension Activities

Fight against the winter

The activity 'Fight against the winter' at IT-NU comprised collection of clothes, toys and educational instruments which were distributed among the needy people around Nirma University during December 17-24, 2014. In addition blankets were also distributed to the needy and destitute people during the mentioned period.

Awareness Camps

An Awareness Camp on 'Swachh Bharat Mission' was organized at Tragad Primary School on January 17, 2015 by IP-NU. The students of the school were explained the importance of hygiene, cleanliness and sanitation with the help of videos, presentations and posters. About 150 students attended the camp and kits were also given to the participating school students. Another Awareness Camp was organized on the same theme at Jaspur Primary School on February 21, 2015. About 250 students attended the camp.



The students of IP-NU explaining the importance of hygiene to the school students

Workshops for ITI Students

A one day workshop on 'Modern Electronics Measurement Instruments and Simulation Tools' was organized as an extension activity by IT-NU for the students of ITI (Electronics), Vastral on January 24, 2015. Another one day workshop was organized by IT-NU for the students of ITI, Gandhinagar on 'Visual Basic and its Applications' on January 31, 2015. The faculty members and students of the Institute delivered lectures to the students during the activity.



Participants of the Electronics Workshop at IT-NU



Participants from ITI Gandhinagar at IT-NU

Adult Literacy Programme

Adult Literacy Programme in association with Devi Sansthan, a reputed NGO from Lucknow was organised by the Student Welfare Department, NU. The students and faculty from IS-NU and IP-NU attended two hours induction training by the NGO on February 5, 2015. A visit to Jaspur village was organised on February 21, 2015 and the students of IS-NU and IP-NU visited to collect data regarding the 'need for adult literacy'. The data will be collected over next few visits and teaching shall start, using the education kits, provided by the NGO.

Industry Interface

Testing work undertaken at IT-NU

Department	Title	Organization	Date
Department of Mechanical Engineering	Thermal Conductivity	ATIRA, Ahmedabad	December 2014
	Thermal Conductivity, Density, Fire Resistance	Global Polyurethanes, Nasik, Maharashtra	December 2014
	Thermal Conductivity, Compression Test	Japeva Industries, Chennai	December 2014
	Thermal Conductivity	Advanced Systems Laboratory, DRDO, Hyderabad	November 2014 - January 2015
		IHI Corporation, Mumbai	December 2014
		Sintex Industries Limited, Kalol	December 2014
		NDT Services, Ahmedabad	January 2015
		Polybond Ltd., Chattisgarh	January 2015
		Keltech. Engineering Ltd., Bangalore	January 2015
		Panache Green, Vadodara	January 2015
		Amol Dicalite Ltd., Ahmedabad	February 2015
	Thermal Conductivity, Dimension Tolerance, Compressive, Drying Shrinkage	Shanti Construction Pvt. Ltd.	January 2015
Department of Civil Engineering	Soil Testing for the New Building of Nirma University	Estate Department, Nirma University	December 2014
	Compression, Flexural and Impact Test	Zenith Fibres Limited	December 2014
	Steel Test	Krishna Builders Pvt. Ltd.	December 2014

Consultancy Work

Institute	Faculty	Title of Consultancy	Address of the Collaborative Organisation
IT-NU	Dr Parin Shah	Process Development for Solvent Recovery	Macro Polymers Pvt. Ltd. Ahmedabad
	Dr R. N. Patel Dr V. J. Lakhera Prof S. V. Jain	Redesign of HRU unit	InspirOn Engineering Pvt. Ltd. Ahmedabad
	Dr R.N. Patel Prof. S. J. Joshi	3D Geometric Modelling using Solid Works for their Power Electronic Devices	Hitachi Hi-Rel Power Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Gandhinagar
	Dr K. M. Patel Prof. S. J. Joshi	Materials of Construction for Ammonia / Urea Plant	IFFCO, Kalol
IP-NU	Dr Sanjeev Acharya	Vendor Selection and Standardization of Cissus quadrangularis	Troikaa Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
IP-NU	Dr Snehal S. Patel	Pharmacological Evaluation of Formulations for Cardio Protective Activity	VIRIGO UAP Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad

Faculty Development Programme

Institute	Name of the Programme	Beneficiaries	Programme Leader/s	Date
IT-NU	Faculty Development Programme based on Peer Faculty Observation	For the faculty members of Department of Mechanical Engineering, IT-NU	Prof. B.K. Mawandiya	December 18-23, 2014

Management Development Programme (In-House) 2014-15

Institute	Programme	Date
IM-NU	'International Business' for Nirma Ltd. (Healthcare Division)	December 18, 2014



Academic Development and Research (ADR) Cell

Research Orientation Programme

ADR Cell organised a one week Research Orientation Programme for the faculty members of the University during December 15-20, 2014. The main objectives of the programme were to update the participants about various national and international funding agencies, to develop their skills in writing research publication and proposal, to understand about scientific misconduct and use of software to identify Plagiarism and drafting patent.



(Seen L-R) Prof. Manjunath Ghate, Director IP-NU, Dr Vidyut Joshi, Emeritus Professor, IL-NU lighting the lamp along with Dr K. Kotecha, Director IT-NU during the Inaugural Function of the programme

Faculty Orientation Programme

A Two-Week Faculty Orientation Programme was organised for the faculty members of the constituent institutes of the University during December 18-31, 2014. Linkages between Society, Environment, Development and Education, Knowledge about University and Institute, Effective Classroom Teaching and Pedagogy, Resource Awareness and Knowledge Generation were the major objectives of the programme.



Shri D P Chhaya, Director (A&GA), NU conducting a session on Governance of University



Group Exercise by Dr Anup Singh, Director General, NU

Forthcoming Training Programmes by ADR Cell

- Four-Week Induction Training Programme for the newly recruited faculty members during June 01-27, 2015
- Two-Week Orientation Programme for the faculty members having experience between 2 to 5 years during June 15-27, 2015 and December 21, 2015- January 02, 2016
- Two-Week Research Orientation Programme for the faculty members having above 5 years' experience during June 15-27, 2015

Centre for Continuing Education (CCE)

CCE organized following Programmes



Four Days Workshop on 'Electrical Motor Rewinding' at IDS-NU during December 2-5, 2014



National Seminar on 'Quality by Design (QbD) for Pharmaceutical Research' at IP-NU during December 11-13, 2014



FDP on 'Embedded Systems' at IT-NU during December 15-16, 2014



Three-Days Workshop on 'Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp' at IP-NU during December 29-31, 2014



Two Days Workshop on 'Android Applications' at CCE during January 7-8, 2015



One Day Workshop on 'Grow your Cells and Harvest the Chromosomes: Methods & Mechanisms of Human Cytogenetics' at IS-NU on January 8, 2015



Two Days Workshop on 'Wordpress - An Open Source Tool' at CCE during January 12-13, 2015



Workshop on 'Hardware and Software Co-Design' at IT-NU during January 17-31, 2015



One Day Workshop on 'Sustainable Building and Town Planning' at IT-NU on February 28, 2015



Two Days Training Programme on 'Electronic System Design' at IT-NU from February 28 to March 1, 2015

Faculty Corner

Faculty Recognitions

Dr P. N. Tekwani of IT-NU chaired a technical paper presentation session on 'Converter Topologies and Control' in IEEE International Conference on Power Electronics, Drives & Energy Systems organized by IIT Bombay during December 16 to 19, 2014.

Prof Utpal Sharma of IA-NU has been appointed as advisor by the Government of Bihar to help finalize the Master Plan of Patna City and sort out the objections and suggestions on its proposal in December, 2014 and as advisor by Government of Assam to counsel on the master plan for the city of Guwahati, in January, 2015.

Prof. Sarat Dalai of IS-NU has been nominated as committee member in Molecular Immunology Forum 2015 and was invited to deliver a talk entitled 'Induction of Memory T Cells through Vaccination by Mimicking Natural Infection' on January 17, 2015 at Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. He was also invited as a member of Expert Peer Committee Meeting (Public Health Research Initiative, PHRI) held during January 23-24, 2015 at Ahmedabad.

Prof. Sudha Patel of IDS- NU was awarded 'Second Best Paper' for a research paper published and presented on 'Visitor Tracking System using MANET' at First International Conference on Advances in Engineering organized by Saffrony Institute of Technology, Ahmedabad on January 23, 2015.

Dr Vimal Kumar of IPNU was invited as chief guest and also chaired a scientific session during GUJCOST sponsored national seminar on 'Global Scenario of Pharmacy Education: Challenges and Opportunity' in Shri B. M. Shah College of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Modasa on February 7, 2015.

Dr S. Garimella of IM-NU was invited as an expert by Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad in the panel of Marketing on February 13, 2015. He also conducted a workshop on the same day on a topic of the 'Quantitative Research Techniques for budding researchers' at GTU. He has also been nominated as Member of the Academic Council by Vice Chancellor, IIS University, Jaipur.

Dr Charmy Kothari of IP-NU received second prize in poster presentation for poster entitled 'Simultaneous Estimation of Gabapentin and Nortriptyline HCl in their Combined Dosage form by UV-Spectrophotometric and Spectrofluometric Methods using OPA-Beta-Mercaptoethanol Derivatization' at Boston International Conference on Applied Pharmaceutical Analysis organized by the Boston Society at Mumbai during February 23-25, 2015.

Prof. Nina Muncherji of IM-NU was invited by Prof. Che-Jen SU of Fu Jen Catholic University, Taipei, Taiwan to join a Cross-Cultural, Euro-Asia Research Project. The Research collaboration is in the area of 'International Family Vacation Decision Making'.

Dr Parin Shah of IT-NU has been appointed as a committee member of Board of Studies in Institute of Forensic Sciences, Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar.

Dr Jayesh Barve of IT-NU has been recently selected as a General Secretary of the ACDOS (Advanced Control and Dynamics Optimization) which is India National Member Organization (NMO) of reputed global organization IFAC (International Federation of Automatic Control). He has also been recently nominated as a member of two International Technical Committees- 'Power and Energy Systems' and 'Intelligent Autonomous Vehicles' of reputed global organization International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC).

Dr Ankit Thakkar and **Dr Ketan Kotecha** of IT-NU, the Co-authors of the paper 'Cluster Head Election for Energy and Delay Constraint Application of Wireless Sensor Network', IEEE Sensors Journal, Vol. 14, No. 8, August 2014, are

recognized for their paper being one of the 50 most downloaded Sensors Journal papers in the month of October 2014.

Dr Shital Butani of IP-NU, co-authored a paper 'Self-Emulsifying Drug Delivery System Containing Aceclofenac: Design & Development using Quality by Design (QbD) Concept' published in Indian Drugs, 51 (6), 2014 that was awarded as the Best Paper (Pharmaceutics) by Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association.

PhD Awarded

Prof. Ankit Thakkar, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, IT-NU has been awarded PhD in November 2014 for his thesis entitled 'Energy Efficient Routing with Effective Clustering Mechanisms in Wireless Sensor Networks' under the guidance of Dr K. Kotecha.



Prof. Sharda Valiveti, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, IT-NU has been awarded PhD in December 2014 for her thesis entitled 'Enhancing Security with Effective Routing Mechanisms in Ad Hoc Networks' under the guidance of Dr K Kotecha.



Prof. Priyank Thakkar, Associate Professor, Department of CSE, IT-NU, has been awarded PhD in January 2015 for his thesis entitled 'Enhancing Performance of Recommender Systems' under the guidance of Dr K. Kotecha.



Expert Lectures Delivered by Faculty

Prof. Anand Patel of IDS-NU delivered an expert lecture on 'Enhancing Engineering Graphics understanding using Multimedia' at Government Engineering College, Palanpur on December 9, 2014.

Prof. Purvi Pokhariyal of IL-NU delivered lectures on 'Role of Female Teachers in Context to Socio, Psycho and Legal Aspects' at Smt. N.C. Gandhi & Smt. B.V. Gandhi Mahila Arts and Commerce College, Bhavnagar on December 13, 2014; 'Constitution of India- Contribution to Social Harmony' at Gujarat Vidhyapith on December 18, 2014 and 'Trial, Triumph and Societal Impacts of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005' during National Seminar at United World School of Law, Gandhinagar on December 20, 2014. She was also invited as a Resource Person for National Seminar on Human Rights in Twenty-first Century-Changing Dimensions at Savitirbai Phule Pune University, Department of Law, University of Pune on February 21, 2015.

Prof. Nityesh Bhatt of IM-NU conducted an MDP on 'Introduction to Global Marketing' for Marketing Department of Nirma Labs, Ahmedabad on December 18, 2014.

Dr Tejal Mehta of IP-NU delivered lectures on 'Polymeric Micelles as Drug Delivery Systems' in SERB sponsored National Seminar on 'Innovations in Drug Delivery: Getting Drugs to their Targets in Body' organized by Nootan Pharmacy College, Visnagar on December 29, 2014 and another lecture on 'Nanocrystals: An Alternative Approach for Solubility and Dissolution Enhancement in DST & GUJCOST sponsored National Seminar on 'Nanoparticulate Systems: A Path towards Excellence in Targeted Drug Delivery Systems' organized by Arihant School of Pharmacy, BRI and Emcure Pharmaceutical Ltd, Ahmedabad on February 12, 2015.

Dr Mayur Patel of IP-NU delivered an invited talk on 'Formulation and Evaluation of Colon Targeted Drug Delivery Systems' in Two Days National Seminar entitled 'Innovation in Drug Delivery-getting Drugs to their Targets in the Body and Innovation in Drug Delivery: from Materials to Devices' organized by Nootan Pharmacy College, Visnagar on December 30, 2014.

Prof. Sameer Pingle of IM-NU delivered lectures on 'Strategic Human Resource Management' at School of Petroleum Management, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar during December 2014.

Dr N. P. Gajjar of IT-NU delivered an expert talk on 'Reconfigurable Heterogeneous Architecture in FPGA', at Government Engineering College, Gandhinagar on January 5, 2015.

Dr R. N. Patel of IT-NU delivered an expert talk on 'Applications of Statistical and Probability Methods in Research' at One Day National Seminar on Research Methodology at Ganpat University on January 17, 2015.

Prof. Krishna Mehta of IL-NU presented a paper on 'Creating Awareness for Intellectual Property Management' at National Seminar on 'New Dimensions of Law in Twenty-first Century' organized by University School of Law, Gujarat University on January 17 and 18, 2015.

Dr Parin Shah of IT-NU delivered expert lecture on topic 'Water Management for Efficient Operation of Boiler' during Training Programme for Boiler Operators for Energy Efficiency in Textile Sector at Ahmedabad promoted by Gujarat Energy Development Agency, Gandhinagar on January 29, 2015.

Prof. Vijay Ukani of IT-NU delivered a talk on Research Thesis/Dissertation/ Manuscript writing using LaTeX/Lyx during GUJCOST sponsored workshop on Research Methodology in Science and Engineering at CHARUSAT, Changa during January 23-24, 2015.

Prof. Pawan K. Chugan of IM-NU conducted a session on 'Theory of International Trade and Investment' for students and faculty of School of Petroleum Management, PDPU, Gandhinagar on February 4, 2015.

Prof. Nityesh Bhatt of IM-NU conducted a plenary session on 'Contemporary ICT Enabled Operations Practices' at the Seventh International Conference - GCeMP 2K15 organised by Faculty of Management Studies, Ganpat University on February 7, 2015. He also conducted a session on 'World Trade Organization' for the students and faculty of School of Petroleum Management, PDPU, Gandhinagar, on February 20, 2015.

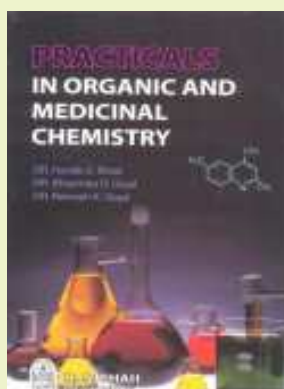
Prof. Sarat Dalai of IS-NU delivered inaugural talk entitled 'Malaria Vaccine: Reality or Illusion' at the National Symposium on Innovative Research and Development in Science and Humanities on February 27, 2015 at Institute of Advance Research, Gandhinagar.

Dr Nasreen S. Munshi of IS-NU delivered a talk entitled 'Microbial Diversity in Sulfide Ores' in a workshop on 'Bioleaching of Sulphide Ores' organized jointly by Department of Microbiology and Department of Geology, M.G. Science Institute, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, under DBT Star College Scheme on February 26, 2015.

Dr Shalini Rajkumar of IS-NU delivered a talk at DBT sponsored National Seminar on 'Widening Horizons of Microbiology' at Shree Manibahi Virani and Smt. Navalben Virani Science College, Rajkot, on February 28, 2015.

Dr Sriram Seshadri of IS-NU presented a paper entitled 'Understanding the Influence of Sugar-Rich Diet on Gut Microbiota and Inflammation in Diabetic Rats', at XXIX Gujarat Science Congress-2015 organized by Gujarat Science Academy and Gujarat Science City on February 28, 2015.

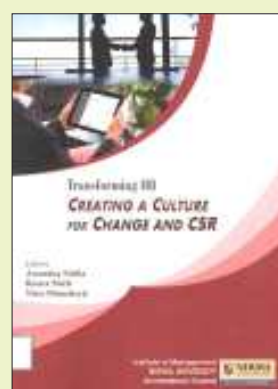
Books Published



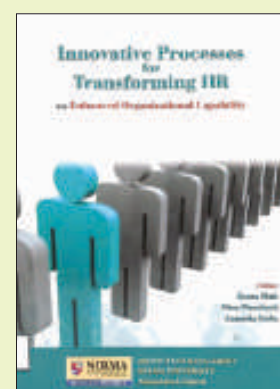
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Chauhan Chetna of IT-NU, 'Structural, Magnetic and Dielectric Properties of Barium Cobalt Hexaferrite-Powder and Barium Cobalt Hexaferrite-Epoxy Resin Composite Film', Journal of Solid State, Electronics and Devices, Volume 1, Issue 2, pp. 1-7, January, 2015.

Chugan P. K. of IM-NU and one other, 'Taxonomy for Measurement of Firm-Level Export Performance' in Universal Journal of Industrial and Business Management', Horizon Research Publishing Corporation, 2(8), pp. 193 - 199, December 2014.

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Sinha Anamika & Varkkey Biju of IM-NU, 'Addrec Solutions: Building Organizational Capabilities for Growth: Case Study', Ivey Publishing, Canada, Product Code for Case: 9B14M124.

Sinha Anamika & Varkkey Biju of IM-NU, 'Training Delivery Faux Paus: A Note from a Trainer's Diary', With Teaching Note, IIMA Case Collection, Product Code: P & IR-0230.

Staff Corner

Rinki Patel of IT-NU presented paper on 'Opinion Spam Detection using Feature Selection' at IEEE International Conference on Computational Intelligence and Communication Networks (CICN 2014), held at JNRVP University, Udaipur on November 14, 2014.

Lalitha Poluru of IP-NU was invited as resource person for UGC sponsored Refresher Course in Library Science during December 8-26, 2014 organized by Academic Staff College, Gujarat University to deliver a lecture on 'Altmetrics' on December 15, 2014.

Sandip S. Patel of IP-NU and **Jayshree D. Pandya** of IS-NU successfully cleared Gujarat State Eligibility Test (GSET) conducted by M. S. University, Baroda in January 2015.

Students' Corner

Students' Achievements

Viral Patel and **Udit Chaube**, PhD students of IP-NU received DST Inspire fellowship with effect from December 2, 2014.

Julie M Pardiwala of IT-NU has been awarded 'International Young Scientist Oral Award for Oral Presentation' for presentation of paper on 'Comparison of Two Different Photocatalyst: Spinel and Pervoskite prepared by Sol-Gel and Co-precipitation Methods for Degradation of RB5 Dye', in the Fourth International Science Congress organized by

International Science Congress Association at Pacific University, Udaipur during December 8-9, 2014. She also stood first in Oral Presentation and got cash prize for participation in a paper presentation competition based on 'New Trends and Developments in Chemical Science and Technology' during Chem-Innova 2015, organised by Sophisticated Instrumentation Centre for Applied Research & Testing, VallabhVidyanagar and Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat on January 31, 2015.

Bhumika Prajapati, Ph.D. Student of IS-NU received International Travel Grant from Indian Council of Medical Research to Participate in Third International Conference and Exhibition on 'Obesity and Weight Management' at San Francisco, USA during December 1-3, 2014. She delivered a presentation on 'Role of Pattern Recognition Receptors and Inflammatory Mediators following Gut Microbiota Alteration in High Sugar Mediated Type 2 Diabetes.'

Chintan Shah, Puneet Agarwal and **Rohit Mishra** of IT-NU were selected among the 89 teams selected from India by the means of a National Online Round held on November 1, 2014. They were invited to participate in the Asia Regionals



held at ABV- IIITM Gwalior on December 20-21, 2014. The team received Certificates of Honorable Mention for Institute of Technology from the Association for Computing Machinery.

Karan Nimrani of IT-NU secured second position in the Elocution Competition during Shiksha Mandal's Forty-First Kamalnayan Bajaj Memorial National Inter-University Competition-2015, scheduled during January 9-10, 2015 at Wardha.

Prithwish Roy Chowdhury, Mayank Singh and Aadil Chaudhary of IL-NU were declared 'Semi Finalists' at H. G. Advani Moot Court Competition, 2015 organized by G. J. Advani Law College, Mumbai from January 30 to February 1, 2015.

Sushama Rawat, PhD student of IP-NU received first prize for Best Poster in Seventh RBF International Symposium, Zydus Research Centre, Ahmedabad during February 2-4, 2015.

Nitin Goklani, Chirag Jain and Tanwi Pareek of IL-NU were declared 'Runners Up' at Dr A. T. Markose Memorial Fourth National Moot Court Competition, 2015 held at CUSAT, Cochin, Kerala during February 6 to 8, 2015.



IL-NU Team comprising **Kaustubh Prakash, Rahul Dev and Priyal Chaturvedi** were declared Semi Finalist at Thirteenth Surana and Surana National Corporate Law Moot Court



Competition held from February 13 to 15, 2015. Mr. Rahul Dev was also declared the Second Best Advocate. The team also bagged the Third Best Memorial at the competition.

Himanshu Subhodh Awasthi, Nehashree Bhatnagar and Agrima Choudhary of IL-NU were declared Runners Up at Tenth All India Moot Court Competition for V.R. Krishna Iyer Ever Rolling Trophy organized by GLC Trivendrum held during February 19-21, 2015. Himanshu Subhodh Awasthi bagged the Second Best Advocate Award and Nehashree Bhatnagar bagged the Second Best Female Advocate Award. The team also bagged the award for Best Team Tag.



Yogesh Gajjar and Nirja Thakkar of IT-NU received scholarship award worth \$ 500.00 each from International Society for Automation (ISA) to pursue their career in the field of instrumentation, automation and related areas.

Aalind Sharma, Aishwarya Chauhan, Aishwarya Rawat, Harshit Gupta of IT-NU, with a music band **Ashvamegh**, got selected for the west zonal finals of the TV show 'MTV Colours of Youth' which is to be held in Mumbai.

Anushka Shrivastava Ph.D. student of IS-NU working in Advanced Genomics Institute & Laboratory Medicine: AGILE, New Delhi participated in the International Symposium on Genomics in Health and Disease & 40th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Human Genetics organized by Institute of Immunohematology, Mumbai, and presented a poster entitled 'Chromosomal Abnormalities arising due to Maternal/Paternal Meiotic Errors: An Important Cause for Recurrent Pregnancy Loss' during January 28-30, 2015.

Fenil Shah of IT-NU won the Gold medal during Petro Cup held at PDP, Gandhinagar during February 5-9, 2015.

Team SAE Baja of IT-NU won second Prize in Acceleration Test worth Rs. 50,000/- during SAE BAJA ATV competition 2015 held at Pithampur, Indore during February 19-20, 2015.

The students of IS-NU: **Jinal Patel**, **Milee Palande** and the Ph.D. scholar **Purvi Zaveri** won First Prize for the poster entitled 'Hydrocarbon Degradation and Survival Study of most Abundant Bacteria isolated from combined Effluent Treatment Plants of South Gujarat' in XXIX - Gujarat Science Congress, 2015, organized by Gujarat Science Academy at the Science City, Ahmedabad during February 28- March 1, 2015.



Rahul Jog, Ph.D. student of IS-NU participated in absentia poster presentation on 'Mechanism of Plant Growth Promotion & Biocontrol by Novel Streptomyces Inoculants' and **Urvi Vacheta**, **Rajvi Patel**, and **Kalpesh Rathod** students of IS-NU presented a poster entitled 'Cell Phone Radiation: A Study of Exposure and In Vitro Cytogenetic Endpoints' at XXIX Gujarat Science Congress, Science City, Ahmedabad during February 28- March 1, 2015.

Manoj Patidar, Ph.D. student of IS-NU participated in a National Level Essay Writing Competition on 'To be truthful is to be Human' conducted by Shri Ramchandra Mission during September 2014 in which 11,000 institutes from all over India participated. He won 1st prize for his essay in Hindi Language in UG- PG Category in North 6-A Zone which included 208 institutes of North Gujarat. The Prize was awarded by Ms. Vatsala Vasudeva, IAS Officer.



Papers Published

Khushbu B. Shah of IT-NU published a research paper titled 'Sizing and Finite Element Analysis of Switched Reluctance Motor' in International Journal of Computer Applications in Engineering Sciences, 5(1), pp.6-9, ISSN: 2231-4946, January 2015.

Mayur Baxani, **N. Anandavalli**, **J. Rajasankar** and **Sharad Purohit** of IT-NU published a paper on 'Analysis of a Masonry Wall under Blast Loads using Coupled Lagrangian-Eulerian Method' in Proceedings of International Conference on Advances in Civil Engineering Materials and Processes held at Coimbatore Institute of Technology during January 7-9, 2015.

Students' Activities

Social Initiatives

Blood Donation Camps

The students of IT-NU participated in various societal activities like teaching to Municipal School children, doing awareness programme for traffic rules and regulations etc. Such type of activities are organized in association with NGOs like 'Make a Difference', 'Yuva Unstoppable', 'NU Hope', Project 'Sarathi' etc. According to WHO, India faces an annual shortage of 3 million blood units. This shortage can be easily eliminated if only an additional 2% of India's youth donates blood.

Thus keeping in mind our social responsibilities, Prathama Blood Centre in association with Team RCNI of IT-NU had undertaken the responsibility of organizing a Blood Donation Camp on January 29-30, 2015, thereby collecting around 327 blood units in total. In addition the Students' Welfare Board of the University organized a Blood Donation Camp on December 5, 2014 in collaboration with HDFC Bank and 39 students donated blood during the camp.



Blood Donation Camp at IT-NU

Rotaract Club Activities

The Rotaract Club of IM-NU (RCIMNU) celebrated World's Aids Day Awareness on December 1, 2014 to spread awareness of AIDS and compassion among the students of the Institute towards AIDS patients. The RCIMNU volunteers made the AIDS day symbol ribbons which were distributed and worn by the students and faculty of the Institute.

The other activities carried out comprise- Clothes Collection Drive on December 8, 2014; Go Green Awareness Programme for environment and saving trees on December 20, 2014; picnic for Saral kids to Kankariya Lake on January 11, 2015 besides the yearlong activity of distributing milk and biscuits to the needy children and teaching them the use of waste newspaper and turn them into creative arts. The Induction Ceremony of RCIMNU was held on December 10, 2014.

Alumni Corner

Alumni Meets

The Annual Alumni Meet of IPNUAA (Institute of Pharmacy Nirma University Alumni Association) was held on December 27, 2014 at the Institute. About 65 alumni attend the meet. Prof. Manjunath Ghate, Director, IP-NU welcomed all the alumni and shared the latest initiatives at the institute during the last year. 'IPNUAA Connect'- the first issue of IPNUAA newsletter was also launched during the alumni meet.

Cultural Initiatives

Enigma Elevated 2015

Nirma Institute of Pharmacy Students' Association (NIPSA) organized Enigma Elevated-2015 during January 29-30, 2015. The event was inaugurated on January 29, 2015. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Dr Bhaswat S. Chakraborty, Sr. Vice President, Cadila Pharmaceuticals, Ahmedabad. Around 550 participants participated in various technical events like Drug Connect, Study Search Sell, Poster Presentations, Mock Interview, Pharma Race and Power-Point Presentations organized during the two days. Besides technical events Parody Master, Music Mania, Just a Minute, Aantakshari, Photography, Recycle, Debate etc. were also organized.



The pioneer issue of the IP Alumni Newsletter being launched at IP-NU

Annual Get Together and a reunion of NITAA (Nirma Institute of Technology Alumni Association) was organised on January 03, 2015 at the University campus. More than 250 alumni with their family members and 150 faculty members attended the get-together. The reunion was presided by Dr Anup Singh, Director General, NU and Dr K Kotecha, Director IT-NU.



A glimpse of the Get-together

The Nirma Institute of Diploma Studies Alumni Association (NIDSAA) organized Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) and Get-together for Alumni of NIDSAA on January 10, 2015. A musical entertainment programme by Mr. Shivang Dave was also organized as a part of celebration. 275 alumni members of the institute participated in the event.



Prof V. R. Iyer, Director IDS-NU (seen third from the left in the photograph) along with other dignitaries on the dais during the Alumni Meet

Expert Talks by IT-NU Alumni

Various engaging and informative talks were delivered by IT-NU Alumni. The talks were delivered by **Mr. Shouvnik Roy**, Project Officer (Solar), Solar Energy Research Wing, GERMI on 'Renewable Energy- Need of the Hour, with deep insights on Solar Energy' during NU-Tech-2015; **Mr. Abhishek Desai** and **Mr. Kuntal Shah** on 'Choosing a Right Institution' on January 1, 2015; **Mr. Neel Shah**, Embedded Systems Engineer, Ciright Systems Inc, USA on Introduction to 'Embedded Systems' on January 13, 2015; **Mr. Hasit Bhatt** and **Mr. Shivang Trivedi** on 'Major Project Guidance' on January 15, 2015; **Mr. Moksha Udani**, Founder and Managing Director, Lewens Labs Pvt. Ltd. on 'My Experiments with Life', on January 30, 2015 and **Mr. Pankaj Javalkar**, Senior Officer, Production, Upstream processing Wockhart Biotech Park, Aurangabad on 'the Opportunities for Chemical and Biotechnology Engineers' on January 30, 2015.



Mr. Neel Shah



Mr. Moksha Udani



Mr. Pankaj Javalkar

Extra-Curricular Activities

Scintilla 2015

The Students' Welfare Board of IL-NU organized Scintilla'15-Micro Cultural Festival on January 20-21, 2015. Various competitions of Solo-dancing, Group dancing, Impromptu dancing, Solo-singing, Instrumental, Drama, Mono-acting and Mime in addition to kite flying were organized during the two days.



The students participating in Scintilla-2015

Republic Day Celebration

Republic Day on January 26, 2015 was celebrated amidst great fervour and enthusiasm at the University. Dr Sudarshan Iyengar, former Vice-Chancellor of Gujarat Vidyapeeth was the Chief Guest of the function.

Prof. Iyengar in his address talked about the real sense of freedom and the country's youth. He also stated that the teachers are viewed as motivators and mentors who thrive to make the world a better place. He further quoted that the teachers are Role Models who have the power to influence the students.

The Republic Day Celebration was attended by Dr Anup K. Singh, Director General, NU; Shri D. P. Chhaya, Director (A&G), NU, All HOIs, faculty and students in large number.



Dr Sudarshan Iyengar addressing the gathering during Republic Day Celebration at NU

Inter-Institute Programmes

The Students' Welfare Board of the University organized Inter Institute One Act Play Competition on January 27, 2015. Annual Sports Day Celebration (Institute & Inter Institute Athletics) 2014-15 was organized during February 5-7, 2015 comprising competitions of Racing, Shot-put, Discus-Throw, High Jump, Long Jump, Javelin Throw etc. Inter Institute Team Games Competition 2014-15 was organized during March 5-30, 2015. There were team competitions in cricket, football, volleyball, chess, carom and table tennis. The Inter-Institute Cultural festival was hosted by IS-NU during February 19-20, 2015. Dr Monica Shah, Director Aradhna Sangit Academy, Dr A.S. Patel, Executive Registrar (I/c), NU and Prof. Sarat Dalai, Director IS-NU (I/c) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest for Valedictory function.



Annual Sports Day Celebration at NU



Dr A. S. Patel awarding the winners in Inter-Institute Cultural Festival with Prof. Sarat Dalai, on the dais, during the ceremony

NU Tech'15: The Resonance of Technology and Tomorrow

The technical festival was organized during February 12-14, 2015 and more than 4000 students from the University and from various colleges of Gujarat participated in the festival in more than 50 events. A stimulating exhibition by ISRO on 'VSSE Mobile' consisting of various static panels covering ISRO activities like Remote Sensing & Communications Satellites and their applications, orbits and launch vehicles was also organized. In addition there were working models showing satellites revolving in LEO and GEO orbits. There were also models of RS and Communication Satellites, DAT Unit and Launch Vehicles. Video documentaries on Chandrayaan, PSLV, GSLV, IIST, SRE etc. were also played during the exhibition. The festival was a huge success.



The students engrossed in observing a displayed model at IT-NU

World Youth MUN

For the first time ever in the history of Nirma, Asia's Largest Model UN Conference- World Youth MUN (WYMUN) was organised at IT-NU on January 31 and February 01, 2015 and at IL-NU during February 13-15, 2015. The events were a grand success and witnessed numerous national and international delegates thronging the campus addressing current world issues related to regional conflicts, peacekeeping, human rights, women and children, economic and social development, environment etc. At the end of the conference, outstanding delegates were recognized and rewarded. Also, Nirma University bagged the 'Best College' Award for the meticulous organisation of the whole event. With more than 40 international collaborations backing the organisation of the event, WYMUN turned out to be a significant learning experience for the students of the Institutes.



A glimpse from WYMUN at IT-NU



The participants of MUN at IL-NU

Annual Management and Cultural Fest

The flagship event of IM-NU 'Perspective and Richter10' the annual management and cultural festival was scheduled during December 4-6, 2014. An amazing number of B-School students turned out to be a part of the three day extravaganza and witnessed a plethora of management events that encompassed various management domains besides cultural events. The second day was graced by the presence of Retired General Ved Prakash Malik who captivated the audience with his enthralling experiences of Kargil War and motivated the students to be the leaders of tomorrow.



Retired General Ved Prakash Malik addressing the gathering at IM-NU

Nirma Champions League 2015

The IM-NU Intra College Sports Tournament- 'Nirma Champions League 2015' (NCL) was held during January 4-29, 2015 on the theme for 'Women Empowerment'. The tournament began with NCL run on January 4, 2015 with large number of participants. There were over 1000 registrations for various events as Badminton, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis, Chess, Carom, Volleyball, Throw Ball, Cricket, and Football besides Athletics Events. The fervour shown by the students was commendable. The supporters also came out in large numbers and cheered for their teams, making the event a huge success.

Tech Fest

IDS-NU organized a National level Students' Competition 'Tech Fest-2015' on February 10, 2015. Shri Jay Ruparel, President, GESIA graced the inaugural function as the Chief Guest and the guest of Honour for the occasion was Shri Bharat Patel, Honorary Joint Secretary GESIA. Dr K. Kotecha, Director, IT-NU presided over the inaugural function. About 470 students from various polytechnic institutes from all over India participated in the mega event.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Tech-Fest at IDS-NU

Workshop on Self-Defence

A self-defence workshop was conducted by IL-NU for the girl students. It aimed at teaching various techniques of self-defence to girls' which can be used in the times of danger.

Rifle Training

NCC in collaboration with Gujarat Police organized Rifle Training for the girl students of Nirma University. In addition an NCC Awareness Programme was organized for the students of IT-NU and IL-NU on January 20, 2015 and January 23, 2015 respectively.

Forthcoming Events

S.No.	Name of the Event	Date of the Event	Institute
1.	Nineteenth Convocation	April 25, 2015	NU
2.	STTP on 'Recent Trends in Communication Engineering'	May 26- June 06, 2015	IT-NU
3.	Faculty Development Programme on 'Developing Excellence in Academic and Research Leadership'	May 14-May 28, 2015	IP-NU

For details regarding the forthcoming programmes by CCE, visit www.nirmauni.ac.in/cce



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- **NU** **Nirma University**
- **IT-NU** **Institute of Technology, Nirma University**
- **IM-NU** **Institute of Management, Nirma University**
- **IDS-NU** **Institute of Diploma Studies, Nirma University**
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- **IS-NU** **Institute of Science, Nirma University**
- **IL-NU** **Institute of Law, Nirma University**
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