

Nirma University

# Newsletter



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## Major Highlights of this Issue



Centre of Excellence status granted to Nirma University



Nirma University awarded with NAAC 'A+' grade



Nirma University releases book on 'Re-Imagining Management Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Way Ahead'



Nirma University sees record campus placements



Institute of Technology awarded the best ISTE Students' Chapter award



Inauguration of Incubation Centre at Nirma University



Nirma alumnus receives the 'ICT Emerging Tech Leader' award





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# Message from the Director General's Desk



Dear Reader,

Recently the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 completed two years of its publication. The central government and most state governments are earnestly working to implement the NEP 2020 in letters and spirits. They have developed rules and regulations to implement the various recommendations of the policy. Several higher education institutions (HEIs) are in the process of carrying out some aspects of the NEP 2020 if not all. It is indeed an arduous task, as it involves significantly greater intellectual and financial investment. It requires more facilities and faculty on the one hand and well-trained faculty and support staff on the other.

Besides, the NEP 2020 puts the student in a pivotal position in the new setup. Greater opportunity and flexibility in education offering for the student is the

key to the new approach. Moreover, the *raison de'être* of higher education, *inter alia*, is the holistic development of the student, who then emerges a responsible and global citizen. How do the HEIs do it? How do they shape the character of the student? What is the way of creating a lifelong learner? In other words, how do HEIs inculcate graduate attributes among students rather than just developing academic competencies? How do they meet the expectations of the industry?

To meet these challenges, the HEIs have to develop a new academic culture where the student is respected, valued, nurtured and groomed for meeting the needs of the corporate world and society at large. The student has to be respected as an adult and be treated with dignity. Their views have to be considered in planning and administering various activities on the campus. The power distance in the classroom has to come down. The controlling orientation has to give way to the facilitative approach. This would lead to greater engagement of the student in the teaching-learning process.

Nurturing, mentoring and supporting are important steps to student development. Students have psychological, emotional, interpersonal and social challenges on

campus, in addition to academic challenges. They need socio-emotional support from faculty and university staff in dealing with day-to-day problems. Furthermore, they need a mentor who can provide direction and a roadmap for their professional journey.

Finally, the HEIs must provide career guidance and training to them so that they make informed choices about jobs and become job ready. Such interventions must be commenced from the first year of the study itself. Getting job ready is a long endeavour. They have to embark upon this journey as early as possible. Alumni of an HEI can play a critical play in helping them prepare for the corporate world. Alumni can be active collaborators with faculty in student development.

Implementation of NEP 2020 has structural, financial and administrative challenges. That said, these are the tip of the iceberg. The real challenges are cultural and social. They must be addressed promptly by all HEIs.

Thanking you.

**Anup K Singh, PhD**

Director General



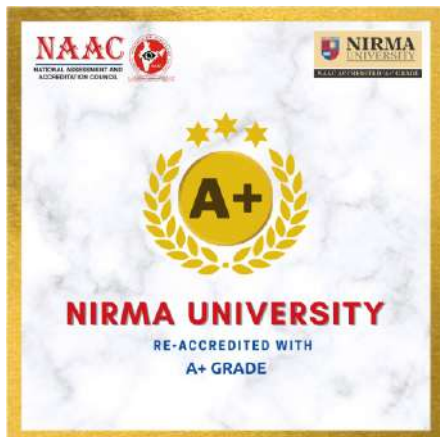
## Awards and Achievements

### Centre of Excellence status granted to Nirma University

The Gujarat Education department, Government of Gujarat has granted the status of 'Centre of Excellence' to Nirma University in Jan 2022. The move will enhance the quality of education, provide impetus to Research and Innovation, and help the University establish a world-class infrastructure for students with high-end technology, student-friendly classrooms, etc.

### Nirma University awarded with NAAC 'A+' grade

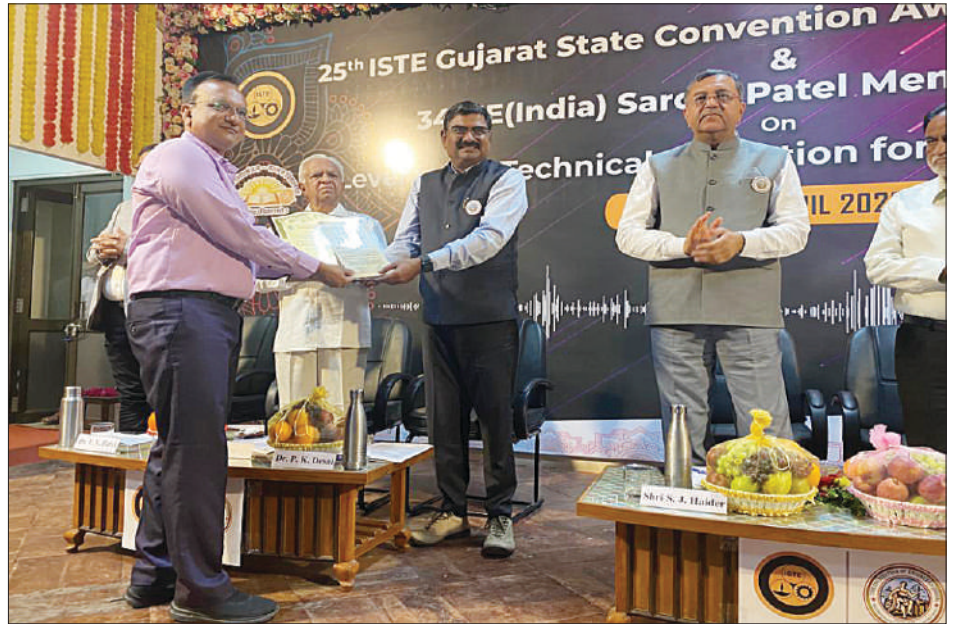
The Nirma University has been re-accredited with an 'A+' grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in the third cycle of re-accreditation on April 5, 2022. The assessment work was conducted as a part of NAAC's periodic evaluation of the higher education institutes and to promote quality teaching, research, and learning in the higher education institutions across the country. The accreditation is according to the revised A&A framework which was introduced by NAAC in July 2017. Among private universities, Nirma University is the only one to receive an A+ grade in the state of Gujarat until April 2022. The grade is valid for the coming five years.



## 25<sup>th</sup> ISTE Gujarat State Convention Awards

Institute of Technology, Nirma University received three awards at the 25<sup>th</sup> ISTE Gujarat State Convention Awards Ceremony 2020 organised on April 29, 2022 at BVM Engineering College, Vallabh Vidhyanagar, Gujarat.

The institute received the award for the following categories:



- Shri Pravin Kaka Ratilal Maniar 'Best Knowledge Centre (Library) Award for the Year 2020' to Library, Institute of Technology, Nirma University. The State Award, under the banner of the Indian Society for Technical Education (Gujarat Section) was presented by Dr P K Desai, President ISTE, New Delhi.



- Dr Darshit Upadhyay, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, Nirma University is awarded the ISTE GUJ-M C Bhavsar Award for 'Innovative work in the areas of Renewable Energy'.



## Rankings

Institute of Management, Nirma University is ranked as 14<sup>th</sup> Best private B-school in India and overall 29<sup>th</sup> Best B-School in India in the Jan 2022 issue of the Business World.

- Institute of Technology, Nirma University received the ISTE-HJD Institute, Kutch-Award for the 'Best Institute for Contributing in Social Activities'.

## MoUs

### MoU with WIN Foundation and Arid Communities & Technology

Institute of Design, Nirma University signed an MoU with WIN Foundation - India, and Arid Communities & Technologies, Kutch on Feb 16, 2022. This MoU aims to jointly explore projects, programmes, and activities towards the achievement of the core objectives; work on social service-related activities; support innovations for social impact through joint evaluation of startup support opportunities, joint programmes, activities, events, promoting innovation and startups in the listed domains, and joint publicity of each other's activities, to name a few.



## Awards and Achievements

### All-India Inter-University Aquatics (W) Championship

Suchetana Chakravorty, a student from the Institute of Law won a Silver Medal in the 200m Butterfly Competition in the All-India Inter-University Aquatics (W) Championship 2021 organised by the Association of Indian Universities during April 24-May 3, 2022 at Jain University, Bangalore. Previously she won a bronze medal in the All-India Inter-University Aquatics (W) Championship in the Butterfly 200 metres event organised at KIIT Bhubaneswar under Khelo India University Games 2021 during Dec 22-26, 2021.

To motivate and encourage her for this feat, Shri K K Patel, Vice President of Nirma University honoured Suchetna Chakravorty by giving a cheque for a scholarship of Rs 25,000 under the Sports Promotion Scheme. She also received a tracksuit from Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University.



### Best ISTE Students' Chapter 2020 Award

ISTE (Indian Society for Technical Education) Students' Chapter, Institute of Technology, Nirma University has been awarded the best ISTE Students' Chapter 2020 by ISTE New Delhi in Feb 2022. After thorough scrutiny of various students' chapters based on the level and number of events organised during the academic year 2019-20, the Institute of Technology received the first position.

### Achievements at National level

- Rushabh Shah, a BPharm Semester-VIII student from the Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University secured fifth rank in the GPAT 2022 with a score of 294 in May 2022.
- Menaria Ramchandra Prem Shankar from the Electrical Engineering department, Institute of Technology secured 85.33 marks out of 100 and an All India Rank (AIR) 14 in GATE 2022.
- Yogesh Agarwal from the Institute of Law won the National Environmental Law Quiz Competition organised by the Centre for Research in Environmental Law, Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur held on June 5, 2022. The quiz was based on the History, Origin, and Significance of Environmental Law, Landmark developments, and recent affairs related to it.

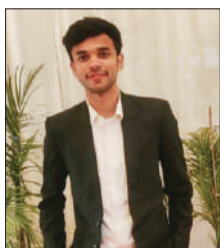


- A team comprising Bhavya Bachani, Mahek Shah, and Vinay Kella from the Institute of Law was adjudged as the winners of the Open Challengers at the 1<sup>st</sup> MNLU, Nagpur - National Moot Court Competition, 2022 held on June 18-19, 2022.
- A team comprising Divyapratap Singh Parmar, Diya Shekhawat, Prachi Tandon, and Ritik Jain from the Institute of Law received the citation of Best Memorial - Respondent at the XV National Law School - Trilegal International Arbitration Moot Court Competition, 2022 organised by National Law School of India University, Bangalore during June 16-19, 2022.
- Dipak Kumar Vaghela, MTech Semester-IV student received second prize in the E-Poster Competition organised by the American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Engineers, Western India Chapter (ASHRAE-WIC). The event was arranged as a tribute to the great mathematician Mr Srinivasa Ramanujan on his birth anniversary on Jan 12, 2022.
- Chintan Ahir, a final year student of the Institute of

Architecture & Planning, Nirma University, received the citation in 'ETHOS Trophy for the Thesis category' at the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual NASA Convention (ANC) hosted by Christ University, Bangalore on June 4, 2022. The ANC is the biggest event hosted by NASA, India, wherein students from various colleges across the country come together to exhibit the best of their works, compete in different events and trophies, and participate in various seminars, discussions, and workshops.



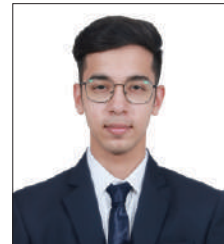
- Parva Jain from the Institute of Management stood second in an online Poker tournament 'Call the shots' hosted by SP Jain Institute of Management and Research, Mumbai. The event was conducted from Feb 11-13, 2022 where a total of 132 participants participated.



- Nirali Shukla, a Doctoral student at the Institute of Science received the Best Oral Presentation award for 'Implications of 3D Spheroids in Breast Cancer: Current Challenges and Promises towards Precision Medicine' in the 6<sup>th</sup> Nirma Institute of Pharmacy International Conference jointly organised with the Indian

Pharmacological Society, NIPiCON-IPS 2022 during Feb 17-19, 2022.

- Ashutosh Sureka and Chinmay Soni, students from the Institute of Management, Nirma University participated as a team in a host of online competitions and brought laurels to the institute. The duo stood second in the National-level economics debate competition 'Arthvaad' on the topic of monetary and fiscal policies. A total of 182 teams participated in the event. They also stood third in the event 'Volatile Vortex', a portfolio management simulation with real-time news and 20 rounds of rejigging. A total of 326 teams participated in the event. Both the events were hosted by IIM Shillong on March 7, 2022. The duo stood third in the National-level stock market simulation with a real-time portfolio construction event hosted by Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi University on March 14, 2022. A total of 458 teams participated in the event. The duo stood first among 87 teams in the Fundamentals and accounting analysis competition hosted by Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi on March 15, 2022. They stood second in the National-level crypto market simulation with real-time trading hosted by the Department of Business Economics, Delhi University on March 19, 2022. A total of 764 teams participated in the event. They stood third in the National-level finance and economics competition with business analysis hosted by IIM Sirmour on March 24, 2022. A total of 380 teams participated in the event.
- Priyanshi Shah, a BPharm Semester IV student from the Institute of Pharmacy secured the first position in the elocution competition on the topic 'Gender Equality Today for Sustainable Tomorrow' organised by WDC-LMCP in association with IPA-Gujarat State Branch on March 8, 2022.





## Achievements at University Level

### Online Photography Competition

The Students Welfare Board organised an online photography competition for the students of Nirma University as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' on Feb 12-13, 2022 on the theme 'My City My View'. A total of 80 students enthusiastically participated in the competition. Mr Mahendra Nikam, Professional Photographer was invited to evaluate the entries received. Kartik Mudaliar from the Institute of Technology received the first prize, the second prize was won by Satyam Yadav from the Institute of Management, and the third prize by Dhananjay Bhavsar from the Institute of Technology.



### Smart India Hackathon 2022

The Centre for Entrepreneurship, Nirma University organised the internal round of Smart India Hackathon 2022 on March 17, 2022 into two categories - Hardware and Software. A total of 23 teams comprising 138 students participated in the event.

In the Hardware category, the participants had to make a prototype that would solve and prove their hypothesis. Teams pitched their ideas to solve the problems ranging

from face recognition smart locks to waste disposal and utilisation. Team Titans [Dhyanik Pujara (leader), Palak Naik, Riya Gautam, Maitreyi Patel, Dixit Dudhat, Harsh Chotaliya] who pitched the idea of face recognition smart locks secured the first position; and Team Civilians [Utsav Modh (leader), Parthiv Trivedi, Hetavi Patel, Foram Shah, Hasmita Mehta, Somali Guchhait] who pitched the idea of solving the waterlogging issues in cities secured the second position. Mr Apurva Sheth, Founder & CEO at UPPROD judged the entries in the hardware category.

In the Software category, the participants had to make a web or mobile application to solve the problem and prove their hypothesis. Teams pitched their ideas in various domains ranging from Academic activities to AI-based chatbots to answer FAQs to Developing a solution for



Gesture enabled commands for operating Laptops/PCs. Team Data sites [Heet Shah (leader), Kanak Tekwani, Adish Golechha, Ruju Shah, Harshil Sanghvi, Vrunda Shah] who pitched the idea of developing a system to transliterate regional language text into English/Hindi and perform matching using machine learning algorithms secured the first position. Team Drone Moghuls [Chaitali Thakkar (leader), Aalap Sanghvi, Aum Jasani, Yash Darji, Dhruvin Kakadia, Dhara Harsora] who pitched the idea of identifying drones through CCTV feeds installed at houses, roads, and other places secured the second position. Ms Meena Shah, CTO at iView Labs; and Mr Mihir Dakwala, Business Unit Head, Agriculture Technology at Amnex Infotechnologies judged the entries in the software category.

## University Level Tournaments

### Tennis (Men) Tournament

Students Welfare Board, Nirma University in collaboration with the Institute of Architecture and Planning organised a Tennis (Men) Tournament on March 19, 2022. Mann Kodwani from the Institute of Commerce was declared the winner, and Saifin Mansuri from the Institute of Architecture and Planning secured the second position.

### Volleyball Tournament

Students Welfare Board, Nirma University in collaboration with AbhimaNU, the Central Sports Committee of Nirma University organised a Volleyball (Men & Women) Tournament on March 22-23, 2022. In the Men category, the Institute of Technology was declared the champion, the Institute of Management was the Runner up, whereas in the Women category the Institute of Technology was declared the champion, and the Institute of Architecture and Planning was the Runner up.



### Badminton Tournament

Students Welfare Board, Nirma University in collaboration with the Institute of Pharmacy organised a Badminton (Men & Women) Tournament on March 23, 2022. In the Men category, Akshat Maniar from the Institute of Technology was the champion and Akshansh Garg from the Institute of Management was the Runner up. In the Women category, Dhanvi Parmar from the Institute of Pharmacy was the champion and Aesha Raval from the Institute of Science was the Runner Up.



## Basketball Tournament

Students Welfare Board, Nirma University in collaboration with the Institute of Commerce organised a Basketball (Men & Women) Tournament on March 24-25, 2022. In this tournament, Institute of Commerce was the champion and the Institute of Management was the Runner up in the Men category, and the Institute of Management was the champion, and the Institute of Technology was the Runner Up in the Women category.



# Placements

## Nirma University sees record campus placements, highest package at INR 88 lakhs

Beating the blues of COVID-19, the University has set a record in campus placement for the graduating batch of 2022. The constituent institutes saw a significant increase in the highest salary offered to the students and the number of companies participating in the campus drive.

The Institute of Technology this year had the highest package at INR 88.21 LPA offered by Bloomberg UK to an undergraduate student. This year's highest package was 90% more than that of the last year's package of INR 46.47 LPA. The highest salary offered for MCA and MTech is INR 14.02 LPA and INR 22.47 LPA, respectively, a significant improvement over last year's highest package.

The average salary for BTech stood at INR 7.82 LPA, MCA at INR 4.59 LPA, and MTech at INR 8.87 LPA. All the streams saw an improvement over last year's average package. The undergraduates in Computer Science and Engineering received the maximum offers from the recruiters.

As many as 596 students have secured job offers from 124 participating companies. The top recruiters were Bloomberg UK, Amazon, American Express, Goldman Sachs, Media.net, NVidia, Qualcomm, Reliance Industries, Deutsche Bank, ZS Associates and Flipkart. The profiles offered by the companies are that of Software Developer, Site Reliability Engineer, Graduate Engineering Trainee, Consultant, Supply Chain Management and more.

For the Institute of Management, Morgan Stanley offered the highest package of INR 26 LPA to four candidates. It rose remarkably compared to last year's highest package of INR 18 LPA. The 2022 placements also had eight students receive INR 23 LPA offered by IT/ITES firms, thus breaking previous historical records. The average salary for the institute rose to INR 10.50 LPA, a 15% increase over last year. The median salary also rose from INR 9 LPA to INR 10 LPA.

The institute saw 100% placements, with 102 companies participating in the campus placement process. The profiles offered are Analyst, Product Managers, Relationship Managers, Senior Associate Consultants, etc. The placement drive witnessed offers from prominent recruiters from various sectors like Consulting, Automobile, BFSI, FMCG, Social Media, Logistics, Power, etc. The recruitment drive saw that companies were interested in Marketing as a specialisation followed by Finance, Human Resource Management and Operations.

The other institutes of the university like Law, Pharmacy, Science, Commerce, Architecture and Design witnessed overwhelming response from their respective recruiters that reflects the quality of students, academic rigour and the brand value of the university.

## Top Companies participate in the placements of the Institute of Design, Nirma University with highest package of INR 16 LPA

Top companies from across India offered competitive salaries to the institute's maiden batch for their flagship programmes- Communication Design and Industrial Design. Of the students who opted for placements, over 60% of them are placed with top

companies. Gainsight, Deloitte, Brillio and TCS were the top recruiters and offered a package ranging from INR 16 LPA to INR 7.00 LPA. The average package of the batch this year is INR 6.72 LPA. The profiles offered to the students are Associate Product Designer, UI Designer, UX Designer, Visual Designer, Creative Graphic Designer, Visualiser, etc.

Below is a first-hand experience of one of the students and the article she penned after the placements were conducted at the Institute of Design, Nirma University.

### Ms Simran Kad

Communication Design Programme  
Institute of Design, Nirma University  
Class of 2022

Associate Product Designer at Gainsight

To begin this with, I never imagined writing this, but I am super grateful to be given this opportunity to share my



experience of my placement process with Gainsight. Well, the job-hunting process has never been easy, roadblocks are more than one can imagine, sometimes the only way out is to face the struggle, good news is being your own honest self helps.

As I sit back and think about how I landed up here, one thing that sets me apart is this constant belief in myself. Which is partially who I am, and partially what these 4 years made me with constant support of parents, faculties and peers.

I have a deep sense of gratitude towards my faculty members, for bringing this wonderful opportunity and their assertive help at every stage of this lengthy and anxious process.

Your belief gets stronger when someone has your back and that is Institute of Design, Nirma university is to me, a bunch of people pushing me and kept me and my peers going through every nightmare and daydream.

To add, placement department of the Institute of Design especially Ms Harjeet Kaur played an efficient role in this process starting from bringing in these amazing companies to providing guidance at each phase of placement round which made the whole process less stressful and hassle free.

What's next? Probably I don't know, I just feel right in the middle of my path of being a responsible designer, looking back to how far I have come and looking ahead to how long I have to go. What I know is now I have my reason to get back up when world beats me down.

## Research and Innovation

### Inauguration of Incubation Centre at Nirma University

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Honourable Union Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India inaugurated the Incubation Centre at Nirma University on June 27, 2022.

Addressing the audience on 'New India for Young India: Techade of Opportunities', Honorable minister Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar said, 'Digital India and Skill India are two important pillars that will transform the prospects of young Indians. India's journey from a \$2 Bn economy to a \$10 Bn economy is now driven by the energy, determination and success of the youth. India has the highest FDI this year than any country in the world.'

Dignitaries present for the inauguration from the Government of Gujarat included Shri Kuberbhai Dindor, Honourable Minister of State for Higher & Technical Education; Shri M Nagarajan, IAS-Commissioner, Higher Education; Shri G T Pandya, IAS-Commissioner, Technical Education; Shri Jitubhai Vaghani, Honorable Minister of Education and Science & Technology; and Shri S J Haider, IAS - Principal Secretary (H&TE). From the university, Dr Karsanbhai K Patel, President-Nirma University; Shri K K Patel, Vice President; Dr Anup K Singh, Director General; and Shri G R Nair, Executive Registrar presided over the event. On this occasion, the university felicitated 13 of its alumni start-up founders.



## Patents granted

- An Indian patent has been granted to Dr Amita Chaudhary, Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering Department, Nirma University in collaboration with FITT, IIT Delhi for an invention entitled 'Aliphatic Ionic Liquid Compound to Capture Carbon Dioxide Gas and Method of Preparation Thereof' on March 31, 2022, in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970.
- A patent has been granted to the Institute of Technology, Nirma University for an invention entitled 'An Improved Test Data De-Compressor on Chip' on April 27, 2022 in accordance with the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970. Inventor: Dr Usha Mehta, Professor, Department of Electronics and Communications Engineering, Institute of Technology, Nirma University.



## Nirma University releases book on 'Re-Imagining Management Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Way Ahead'

Today's management education is changing rapidly and offers opportunities as well as challenges for all the stakeholders. Management education has to be dynamic, driven by changes in the business world, globalisation and technological revolution. Keeping this in mind, Nirma University with the publisher Bloomsbury came up with the book, 'Re-Imagining Management Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Way Ahead'.



Here is an interview with the Editor of the book **Dr Nina Muncherji**, Associate Professor, Institute of Management, Nirma University.

### Q. How much time did you take to compile and finish the editing of the book?

It took me two years to publish the book. Institute of Management, Nirma University, celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 2021. To flag off the year-long celebrations, a seminar was designed for academicians to share innovative and effective strategies of teaching, leading to enhanced student learning and engagement in Feb 2020. The overall aim of the seminar was to facilitate the teaching-learning process to improve the quality of Management Education. The seminar aimed at providing the nation's academic leaders to showcase groundbreaking research and engage in dynamic discussions about an array of issues that affect the Management Academia. This book is the amalgamation of the insights, thoughts, and ideas of the Management Academia on taking Management Education forward and re-establishing its luster.

### Q. Who is your audience?

Management education has evolved considerably over the years, but despite its existence for over a century, it is confronted with new challenges and today it stands at crossroads where we can see it is losing its luster. The book is for everyone who wants to understand the past, present and future of management education, who want to see management education regain its glory.

### Q. What is your favourite section from the book?

My favourite section of the book is one on 'Creating Management Schools for the Future'. Over the last two years with the pandemic things have changed drastically and it forced the management teachers and gurus to reimagine MBA, to make it relevant. The section deals with a wide variety of papers focusing on making MBA more relevant, engaging students, issues related to gender equality, diversity and

inclusion and the new formats of MBA to make it more effective. Thus, it leaves one with hope and create a path to make management education more contemporary.

**Q. What are the key takeaways from the book?**

The key takeaways from the book are:

- Today Management Education is changing rapidly and offers opportunities as well as challenges for all the stakeholders.
- There is a need for management education to be dynamic, driven by changes in the business world, globalisation and technological revolution.
- Transformation of Indian Management education is necessary and inevitable in the present dynamics of the Indian business world.

**Q. How is it going to help the students or the faculty members referring the book?**

The faculty members who refer the book will get insights on the 'what' and 'why' of the changes taking place in the Management Education. It will help them to understand these changes and how to deal with the dynamics so as to re-imagine the management education, helping it to regain its past glory. It can also be valuable to the faculty as a resource to help them with their research in the field of higher education.

Students will also benefit by getting insights into the past, present and evolving landscape of management education.

**Q. What was the most challenging part of finishing the book?**

The book as mentioned was intended to make a meaningful contribution to the field of management education as a part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Institute of Management, Nirma University. The greatest motivation and support for this project came from Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University.

However, there was a challenging part to this project and it was getting all the contributors to send in their papers. As we know all academicians are multitasking these days, with all the other responsibilities which they shoulder, writing a paper for the book was not one of the top priorities. I had to do constant follow up with the contributors, with the publishers, and owing to my other academic commitments the publication of the book got delayed a bit.

**Q. What makes your book different from other similar books available in the market?**

Most often edited books are papers from conferences which are put together in the form of a book. This book is a compilation of invited papers from academicians of

repute from reputed B-Schools both national and international.

Other similar books look at one broad theme, but in this book, we look at three broad themes:

- Management Education in Post-Liberalisation Era
- Issues and Challenges in Management Education
- Creating Management Schools for the Future

The papers are contemporary. The chapters in the book provide insights into various dimensions of Management Education making it an interesting read for Academicians, Policy Makers, & Practitioners. The biggest differentiator is the interview with none other than the Management Stalwart 'Dr Jagdish Sheth' on his views on the evolving landscape of management education in India.

Thus, on the whole I would like to state that editing this book has been a very enriching experience for me; right from the selection of the title, to designing the cover of the book. Be it in getting in touch with the publishers and authors, getting budget approval, I received complete support from the management at Nirma University.



# Events and Activities

## Celebrating two decades of the Establishment of Nirma University

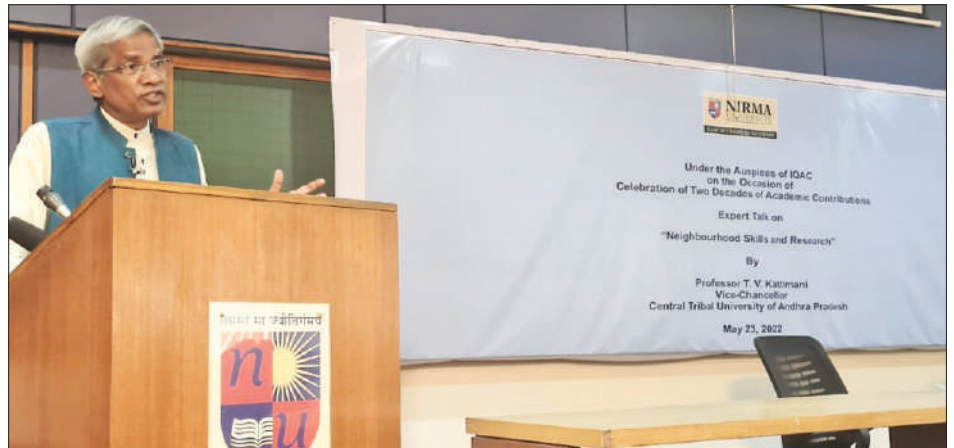
Nirma University started its journey of academic contribution on April 17, 2003. The University will be completing two decades of Academic Excellence on April 17, 2023. The University is celebrating this academic journey of two decades by conducting various activities for faculty and staff members as well as students of Nirma University.

To kick-start the year-long celebrations, Dr Avinash Chandra Pandey, Director, Inter-University Accelerator Centre, New Delhi addressed the Nirma University community members on April 18, 2022 where he shared his thoughts on 'Creating a Strong Nation with Robust Education Policy'.

In continuation of celebrating the academic journey of two decades, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Nirma University, conducted an expert talk on the 'Challenges and Opportunities in Higher Education' by Dr N V Varghese, Vice Chancellor, National

Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi on May 5, 2022. He is also the Founding Director of the Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education (CPRHE) at NIEPA. He is closely associated with educational planning at the federal and decentralised levels and with the design and development of externally funded projects in India.

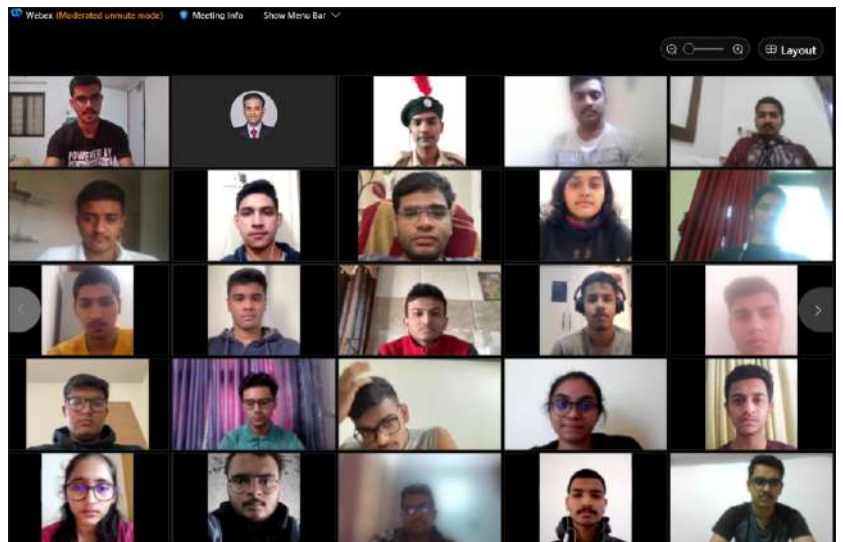
The university invited Dr T V Kattimani, Vice Chancellor, Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh on May 23, 2022. He delivered an expert talk on 'Neighbourhoods Skills and Research'.



## Celebration of Important Days

### Parakram Diwas Celebration

The NCC Unit of Nirma University under the aegis of 9-Gujarat NCC Bn, Ahmedabad celebrated the 126<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as Parakram Diwas on Jan 23, 2022. The main theme of the event was 'Remembering Netaji's Selfless Services.' A total of 43 NCC cadets (34 boys and 9 girls) of Nirma University participated in the webinar. A presentation on Subhash Chandra Bose was presented by CPL Aaditya Gill.





## Republic Day Celebration

On the occasion of Republic Day, Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University hoisted the National Flag at the university campus in the presence of Head of Institutions, Heads of Departments, and Section Heads. Owing to the ongoing pandemic, Covid appropriate protocols were followed and the gathering was kept minimal.



## Celebration of National Youth Day

The NSS Unit and Students Welfare Board, Nirma University celebrated the National Youth Day, and the Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda on Jan 12, 2022, as part of the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' on the theme of 'Suryanamskar@Home'.

## International Women's Day Celebration

- As a part of the International Women's Day celebration, the Institute of Science under the aegis of the Women Development Cell, Nirma University organised an online Inter-Institute Essay writing competition on March 5, 2022 on the topic 'Attaining Work-Life Balance in the Indian Scenario: Concerns and opportunities. Twenty-three students from constituent institutes participated in the event. The event was judged by Ms Renu Meghrajani, Principal, Trinity Mission School, Vyara, Gujarat. Parth Mangal from the Institute of Law stood first, Bhavan Pandya, and Khushboo Kourani from the Institute of Science stood second and third respectively.
- A talk on 'Towards Economic Freedom' was organised by the Institute of Design on March 7, 2022 to mark the International Women's Day 2022. The attendees had the opportunity to hear from Padma Shri Reena Nanavaty, Director, Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Gauri behen, and Mangu behen from SEWA. The audience had the opportunity to broaden their horizons in understanding the life stories and work of these inspiring women and their organisations.



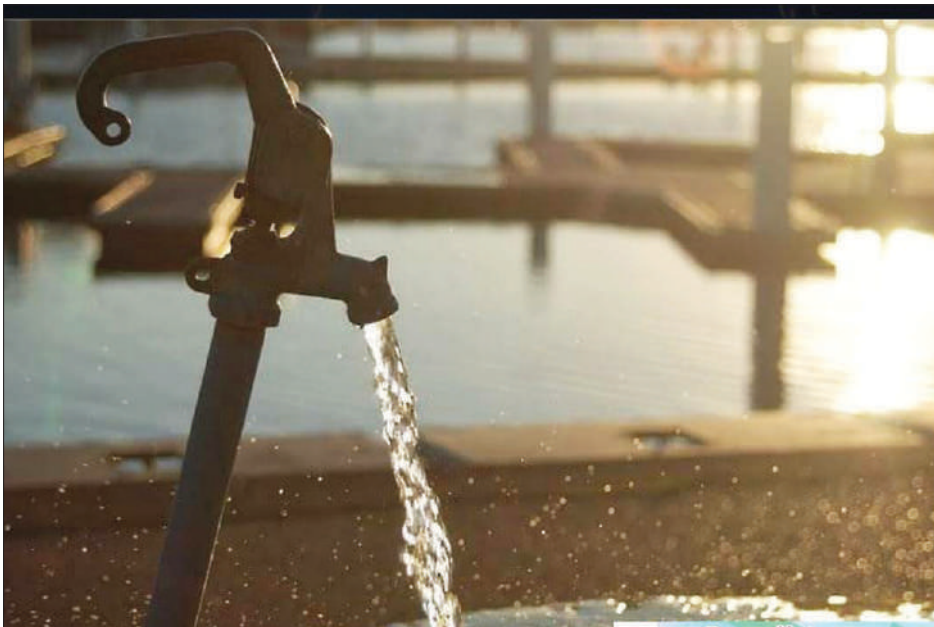
- Institute of Commerce hosted a Guest session on 'Education and Gender Equality' on March 5, 2022. CS Savithri Parekh, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer at Reliance Industries Limited, recipient of the Chevening Scholarship for young Indian Lawyers funded by the Foreign Commonwealth Office, UK was the guest speaker for the session.

## World Water Day 2022

Every year World Water Day is celebrated on March 22 focusing on the approximately 1.8 billion people worldwide who rely on water contaminated with faeces, putting them at risk of contracting cholera, dysentery, typhoid, polio, and other waterborne diseases. The UN's Sustainable Development Goals, launched in 2015, include a target to ensure everyone has access to safe water by 2030, making water a key issue in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty.

In this context, the Civil Engineering Department, School of Engineering; Organisation of Civil Engineering Students; IGBC Student Chapters along with the NSS Unit, Nirma University observed World Water Day on March 22, 2022. An Expert lecture session on the theme 'Ground Water: Making Invisible Visible' was conducted by Dr Ratan Jani, Former Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. Various competitions such as Save it Now: Writing competition, Every Drop Counts: Photography competition, and Leaving water for the future: Videography competition were also conducted. More than 100 students participated in these competitions.

The Institute of Commerce, Nirma University conducted a host of activities for students like essay writing, photography, and quote writing to raise awareness about clean water and sanitation across the country.



## Observation of Shaheed Din

The NCC Unit at Nirma University attached to 9-Gujarat Battalion observed the Shaheed Din on March 23, 2022. This event was organised to remember the sacrifice of brave sons of the motherland Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar. The NCC cadets organised Open Mic events including Monoact, Poetry, Storytelling, Singing, and Instrument playing.



## World Thinking Day Celebration

Litwits - the literary committee and Prism - the media committee of the Institute of Commerce organised Inklings - the micro tale competition, and Humourously - the meme-making competition on April 21, 2022 on the occasion of World Thinking Day. Rohan Puntambekar from the Institute of Technology, Nirma University was adjudged the winner in Inklings, and Parul Prasad from the Institute of Commerce, Nirma University was adjudged the winner in Humourously event. The judges for Inklings were Ms Kruti Patel, founder of Artist's Heaven and a writer; and Ms Neha Vyas, freelance writer. The event Humourously was judged by Mr Balam Vishwa Karma, a memer.

## World Intellectual Property Day

The Centre for IPR, Institute of Law organised a Guest lecture titled 'Contemporary Developments in Copyrights Law' on the occasion of World Intellectual Property Day on April 28, 2022. The speakers included Dr Nidhi Buch (Head & Assistant Professor, Centre for IPR, GNLU) who articulated her thoughts on the topic 'Fan - Fiction: Exploring the Legality within Copyright Law'; and Ms Shaiva Desai (IPR Attorney and Advocate) who spoke on 'Recent Jurisprudential Developments in Copyright Regime in India: A Comparative Analysis'.

## National Science Day Celebration

Institute of Science celebrated the National Science Day on Feb 28, 2022 on the theme 'Integration of Science and Technology for the Sustainable Future'. Dr Urszula Krzych, Chief, Cellular Immunology Lab, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, MD USA delivered a talk on 'T cell-based vaccines, examples from malaria'. Also, as a part of this celebration Essay writing, Sci-biography, Sci-toon, and Sci-model events were organised for the students.

## Gujarat Sthapana Divas Celebration

Every year May 1 is celebrated as 'Gujarat Sthapana Divas'. On this occasion, a 'Virtual Book Display' of books available in the libraries of Nirma University was held. Moreover, an online quiz on the state of Gujarat was conducted on May 5, 2022 which was open to all the students, staff, and faculty members. A total of 242 participants participated in the online quiz, where 28 participants received prizes for answering the quiz correctly.

## World Health Day Celebration

As a part of the celebration of World Health Day, the Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University, organised a guest lecture by Dr Vivek Nanda, Consultant Emergency Medicine, K D Hospital on 'Fit India Campaign- Reversal of Lifestyle disorders and its practical implications on Mental Health' on April 7, 2022. The interactive session covered various aspects of mental health and the prevention of lifestyle disorders by nutritional diet.



## World Bicycle Day Celebration

The NSS Unit in collaboration with the Students Welfare Board, Nirma University celebrated 'World Bicycle Day' during June 3-14, 2022 as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav celebrations with an objective to popularise the usage of cycling to solve the dual issues of global warming and unhealthy lifestyle. The university students, faculty and staff members participated in this activity by cycling in groups/individually around historical places, and/ or in the area around their residence. After completion of cycling, participants uploaded their photographs through the google link provided to them.



## 8<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day Celebration

Nirma University celebrated the 8<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day on June 21, 2022 at its campus. A total of 508 members including students, faculty and staff members performed yoga together under the guidance of yoga instructor Mr Harjendrasingh R Gill and his team members. During the Yoga session, certain basic Yoga exercises like Sadilaja, Calana Kriyas, and Loosening practices to increase microcirculation were performed. Thereafter Yogasanas, Kapalbhathi, Pranayam, Dhyana, Sankalpa, and Santih Patha were also performed. After the event, refreshments were arranged for all the participants.



## World Environment Day Celebration

On the occasion of 'World Environment Day' on June 5, 2022 the NSS Unit in collaboration with the Students Welfare Board, Nirma University jointly organised an online Poster Making Competition for the students on the theme 'Only One Earth' as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav celebrations. A total of 47 students from the constituent institutes of Nirma University enthusiastically participated in the competition. The posters were evaluated by Ms Subarna Das, Art Facilitator, Zydus School for Excellence, Godhavi.

Palavi Jain from the Institute of Design secured the first position, Kopal Ved from the Institute of Law secured the second position, and Mansi Thakkar from the Institute of Science secured the third position. Further, the NSS unit of the Institute of Commerce conducted a Plantation drive on this occasion.



## Conferences, Workshops, Seminars and Webinars

### NIPiCON 2022

Institute of Pharmacy organised the 6<sup>th</sup> International eConference (NIPiCON) jointly with the Indian Pharmacological Society (IPS) on the theme 'Emerging Opportunities and Challenges in Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences for Drug Discovery and Healthcare Innovations' during Feb 17-19, 2022. Dr Michael Spedding, Secretary General, International Union of Basic & Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR), and President, Spedding Research Solutions SAS, France was the Chief Guest and Shri K K Patel, Vice President, Nirma University presided at the inaugural event.

Prof Ingolf Cascorbi, President, International Union of Basic & Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR), Germany, and Professor, Institute of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology, UKSH, Germany was the Chief Guest and Prof Y K Gupta, President, AIIMS Bhopal, and AIIMS Jammu was the Guest of Honour in the Valedictory event. Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University presided at the event.



### National Youth Summit

The NCC Unit of Nirma University affiliated to the NCC Ahmedabad Group, Gujarat Directorate celebrated the National Youth Summit as a part of the National Youth Festival on Jan 13, 2022. This celebration was a part of the nation-wide National Youth Festival inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The celebration was organised virtually where all the NCC cadets of the university participated. The programme included presentations on various topics like 'National Values, History and Mindfulness National Character Building', 'Future Skills, Technology, and Entrepreneurship Global Superpower', 'Indigenous Wisdom, Knowledge-Economy Building to establish material value Traditional Futures', and 'Social Innovation and Sustainable Development led Growth and Equitable Economy.' All the participants were informed about the importance of youth day and encouraged to inculcate the learnings of Swami Vivekananda. Finally, an online quiz on the life journey of Swami Vivekananda was organised.

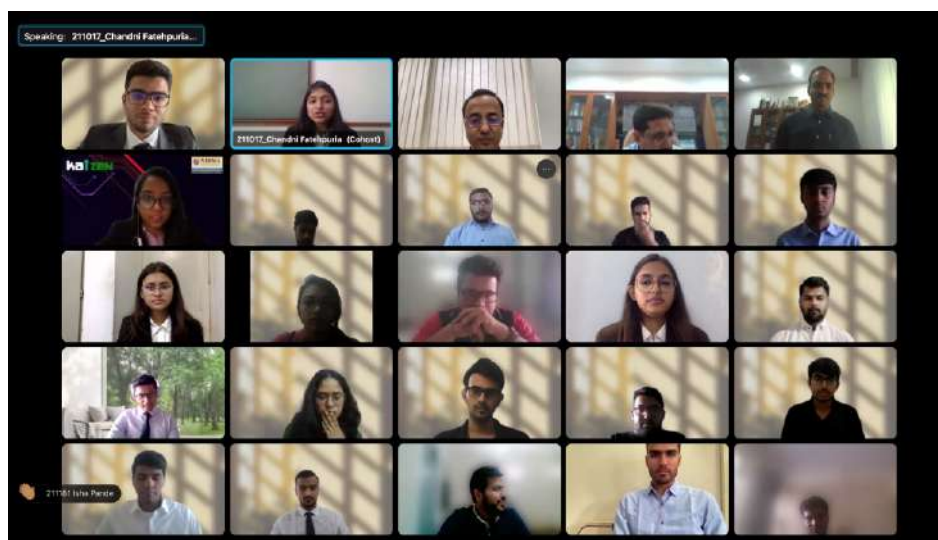


## 25<sup>th</sup> Nirma International Conference on Management (NICOM)

The Nirma International Conference on Management (NICOM) was organised by the Institute of Management, from Feb 17-19, 2022 based on the theme 'Strategies for Architecting Sustainable Competitive Excellence: Reimagining the Future'. The objective of the conference was to provide a platform for an interactive discussion between academicians and industry veterans on a plethora of topics under a common theme. Mr Shailesh Pathak, Head-Special Initiatives, Development Projects at Larsen & Turbo, and a Co-head, FICCI National Committee on Infrastructure was the chief guest at the inaugural event. The conference received 80 abstracts and 11 full papers from academicians and practitioners, presenting their research in seventeen concurrent tracks during the three days of the conference. The Plenary Session on the second day was initiated by Ms Nitya Bhalla- Global Product Lead, Data Science, Nielsen IQ. Other speakers included Mr Deepak Prajapati, Director and Regional Head, Care Ratings; Mr Anindo D Burman, ex AVP-HR, Maruti Suzuki. Towards the end of the conference, a workshop on 'Bibliometric Analysis' was conducted by Dr Dhaval Maheta, Assistant Professor, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat. The conference concluded with a Valedictory function wherein the chief guest was Prof Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Director, National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai.

## Pratidhwani

Pratidhwani, the 9<sup>th</sup> alumni conclave of the Institute of Management was organised by the Kaizen Committee of the Institute of Management on March 26, 2022. A virtual conference in the form of a panel discussion on the theme 'Envisioning the PhyGital future' was conducted by alumni with experience in diverse fields such as IT, Finance, Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Sales, and HR. A total of nine panelists Saurav Gupta - Finance Controller, Capgemini; Mitesh Manubarwala - General Manager (HR), A P Moller Maersk; Vidhya Iyer - Senior Process Manager, eClerx; Sonika Gupta - Executive Director, Nielsen IQ; Kunal Mathuria - Director Specialist Management, Microsoft India; Vivek Rao - DGM (HR), Mahindra Group; Sukhvinder Singh - Director, Singh Sports Ventures Pvt Ltd; Amit Toshniwal - Head of PMO, L&T Financial Services; and Shalin Talajia - CEO- Founder, Grabenord and Healthy Gut imparted valuable insights to the students.



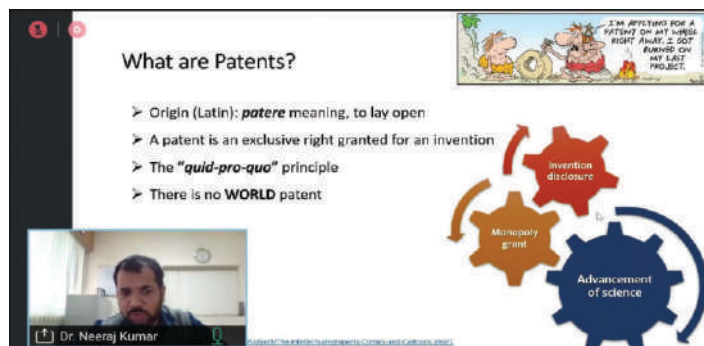
## National Webinar on Research Avenues in VLSI Design

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology organised a National Webinar on 'Research Avenues in VLSI Design' on Feb 18-19, 2022. The keynote address was delivered by Shri Vibhumauli Hunsigida, Software Development Director, Advanced Micro Devices, Hyderabad. More than 110 researchers across the country from leading industries, academic institutions, and research organisations participated in the webinar. Speakers included: Dr Joycee Makie, IIT Gandhinagar; Dr Santanu Chattopadhyay, IIIT Kalyani; Dr Pallab Dasgupta, IIT Kharagpur; Dr Tarun Kanti, IIT Kharagpur; Dr Rajesh Zele, IIT Bombay; Dr Sudeb Dasgupta, IIT Roorkee; Dr Maryam Shojaei Baghini, IIT Bombay; and Dr Preeti Ranjan, IIT Delhi. Interactions in the key areas of VLSI Design like, Device Modelling, MEMS, RF Circuits, Testing and Verification, Machine Learning in VLSI etc. were conducted during the course of this webinar.



## Workshop on Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University, Ahmedabad organised a workshop on 'Protection of Intellectual Property Rights in Pharmaceutical Sciences' from Dec 31, 2021 to Jan 1, 2022. Resource persons included Dr Shripati Rao Kulkarni, Principal Scientist, Business Development-Intellectual Property Unit, CDRI-Lucknow; Mr Sanjay Patel, Founder, Principal IP Attorney EXCELON IP-Patent, Trademark Attorneys, Ahmedabad; Dr Neeraj Kumar, NIPER-Hyderabad; Ms Taruna Jakhar, Assistant Professor, Institute of Law, Nirma University.



## Workshop on Sophisticated Instruments

The Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis, Institute of Pharmacy, and Centre for Advanced Instrumentation, along with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a workshop on Sophisticated Instruments on Jan 4, 2022. A total of 25 students from various academic institutes participated in the workshop. Prof Priti Mehta, Head, Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis; Dr Hardik Bhatt, Head, Centre for Advanced Instrumentation and, Dr Nrupesh Patel, Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis were the resource persons.



## Workshop on Building Information Modelling (BIM) using Revit

The Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology organised a workshop on Building Information Modelling (BIM) using Revit under the banner of the Centre for Continuing Education during Jan 4-5, 2022. A total of 29 students and 7 faculty members participated in the workshop conducted by Mr Keval Shah, Geo Designs & Research (P) Ltd; Dr Aritra Dasgupta, Mr Dinakar Thakur, and Mr Soudip Chakraborty from Zuru Tech India Pvt Ltd.

## Seminar on Nano Drug Delivery

The Department of Pharmaceutics, Institute of Pharmacy in association with the Centre for Advanced Instrumentation (CAI) and Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) organised a seminar on Nano Drug Delivery on Jan 29, 2022 where about 120+ delegates participated from various pharmacy institutes across the country. Prof S P Vyas (Former Vice-Chancellor, Dr Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar) was the Chief Guest for the Inaugural function. The seminar comprised five technical talks from eminent resource persons including Dr Sanjula Baboota (Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi), Dr Saurabh Srivastava (NIPER, Hyderabad), Dr Vikas Jain (JSS, Mysuru), Dr Namrata Jain (Horiba, New Delhi), and Mr Srinivasa Reddy (Inkarp, Mumbai).



## Workshop on Speech Processing using Python

Faculty members from CSE Department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University in association with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a workshop on Speech Processing using Python for students during Jan 29-30, 2022. The workshop conducted by Dr Sapan H Mankad, Dr Dvijesh Bhatt, and Dr Ajay Patel focused on providing exposure to the recently trending field of Audio and Speech Processing with conceptual sessions where the use of Python was covered with demonstrations and hands-on practice sessions.

## MINeD 2022

A National level online hackathon MINeD 2022 was organised by the Centre of Excellence in Data Science, CSE Department in collaboration with the SUNY Binghamton University during March 3-5, 2022. Based on the themes such as Smart Healthcare, AI and ML, and Open Innovations the event was sponsored by SUNY Binghamton University with total prize money of USD 1000. Four industry partners namely, Cactus Communications, D360 Technologies, HOPS Healthcare, and J K Lakshmi Cement Ltd also sponsored the track prizes. More than 500 participants from across the nation registered for this flagship event. Team TensorFellows (Manan Davawala, Harsh Bhatt, Aayush Gohil, Jaynil Vaidya, and Harsh Mankodiya) of the CSE Department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University were declared the first prize winner bagging USD 500.

## Virtual Reality Workshop

As a part of research capacity building for faculty and students of the BArch programme, a Workshop on Virtual Reality was organised from Feb 21-25, 2022 in collaboration with ENSA, Nantes, France. Students from France and Nirma University worked on various projects, under the theme Matryochka-The marketplace. The workshop was conducted by Prof Laurent Lescop, an Architect and a Doctorate in Sciences with Habilitation, a Scholar-Professor at the Nantes' Superior School of Architecture (ENSA Nantes, France), and Dr Haddas Sopher, a Postdoctoral Researcher at the CRENAU/AAU UMR CNRS at France. The students worked with various 3d software and Spatial - a virtual reality immersive software to generate virtual environments that generate shared immersive experiences.





## Capacity Building Programme on Contemporary Issues in Accounting Education and Research

Institute of Commerce, Nirma University organised a Capacity Building Programme on Contemporary Issues in Accounting Education and Research in association with ICSSR during Feb 28-March 12, 2022. 31 faculty members in the area of Accounting, Finance, and Commerce from six states in India: Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat participated in the programme. The programme was facilitated by a total of 23 resource persons from institutes like XIMB, Bhubaneswar; SRCC, Delhi; Sardar Patel University, Anand; Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; and Nirma University, Ahmedabad, among others.



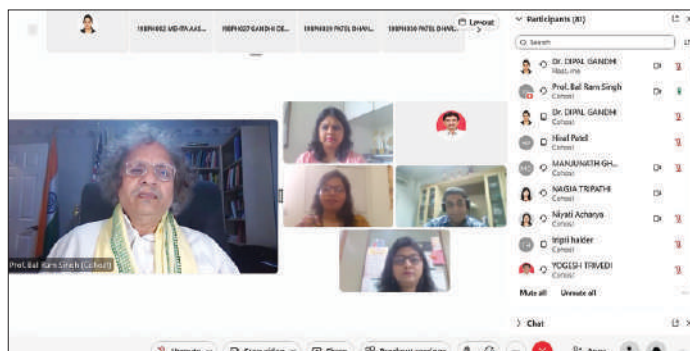
## Workshop on Computer-Aided Drug Design Software

Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Institute of Pharmacy, and Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University, organised a workshop on Computer-Aided Drug Design Software on March 10, 2022. Resource persons included Assistant Professors from the Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University. Dr Vivek K Vyas delivered a lecture on physicochemical properties, Dr Bhumika D Patel delivered a lecture on structure-based drug design, and Dr Jignasa Savjani delivered a lecture on the importance of ADMET properties.



## Webinar on Popularisation of Alternative and Complementary Medicines in Healthcare Interventions

Department of Pharmacognosy, Institute of Pharmacy, in association with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University organised a webinar on Popularisation of Alternative and Complementary Medicines in Healthcare Interventions on March 11, 2022. Prof Bal Ram Singh, Professor and President at Institute of Advanced Sciences, Dartmouth, MA; Prime Bio, Inc. USA was the chief guest and one of the speakers for the webinar. He gave a talk on 'Beginning and Building of a New World Order with Ayurveda and Yoga'. Dr Dhiren Sareen, Naturopath Doctor & a Holistic Coach, Ahmedabad discussed water therapy; Mrs Rupa Majmudar talked about Reiki: The Natural Healing Method; and Prof Sanjeev Acharya, Principal, SSR College of Pharmacy, Silvassa conducted a session on 'Managing Lifestyle with Botanicals for Future Pandemics'.



## Workshop on Basic Cell Culture Techniques

A workshop on Basic Cell Culture Techniques was conducted by the Department of Pharmacology, Institute of Pharmacy, in association with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University on March 19, 2022. The workshop intended for beginners who wish to work on animal/human cell culture. It was supported by lectures and demonstrations on cell culture and its application to pharmacological and biological research. The sessions were conducted by Dr Neeta Shrivastava, Deputy Director, B V Patel Education Trust, Ahmedabad, and Dr Snehal Patel, Associate Professor, Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University.



## IoT and Automation using NodeMCU

A workshop on IoT and Automation using NodeMCU was organised by the Centre for Continuing Education on March 26-27, 2022. The workshop was aimed to provide hands-on experience and knowledge to operate a robotics system with various peripheral devices interfaced with automation and robotics application. Participants had exposure to the live demonstration of application-based robotic systems developed at Centre for Robotics and Automation, Nirma University. A total of 50 participants attended the workshop conducted by Dr Akash Mecwan, Assistant Professor, Electronics & Communication Engineering department; Dr Reena Trivedi, Associate Professor; Dr Jatin Dave, Associate Professor; Dr Mihir Chauhan, Assistant Professor; and Dr Darshita Shah, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University.

## National Conference on Advancement in Communication, Electronics, Computers, and Automation Technology

A national conference on 'Advancement in Communication, Electronics, Computers, and Automation Technology' was organised by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology during April 29-30, 2022. Ms Minal Sampath, Scientist, SAC - ISRO, Ahmedabad inaugurated the online conference as the chief guest. Four tracks with the expert talks followed by oral presentation sessions were organised as per the following details:

- Track 1: Communication, Antenna, and Microwave Engineering, Expert talk by Dr Y N Trivedi, Professor, Electronics and Communication Engineering department, Institute of Technology, Nirma University.

- Track 2: Computer Vision, and Machine Learning, Expert talk by Dr Kishore Upla, Assistant Professor, SVNIT, Surat.
- Track 3: VLSI Design and Testing, Expert talk by Mr Viren Gajjar, Senior Physical Design Engineer, Meta Research Lab.
- Track 4: Embedded System Design, Expert talk by Mr Dhruv Dave, Senior Embedded Engineer, ARM, Bangalore.

## Workshop for realising NEP 2020

Aligning with the vision and mission of Nirma University to augment the facilitation of teaching and learning, and also to realise the New Education Policy 2020, the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences under the aegis of the Institute of Technology, Nirma University organised a workshop on 'Shaping the way we teach English' for English faculty members of the University. Mr Soumen Das Chodhary, a Master trainer from British Council, Mumbai conducted the sessions on April 27-28, 2022.



## Scintilla 2022

Electrical Engineering Students' Association (EESA), Institute of Technology, Nirma University organised a technical symposium 'Scintilla 22' on the theme 'Charging the Green Future' on April 19, 2022. Mr Nihar Raj, Vice President, Adani Transmission Limited was the chief guest and keynote speaker. More than 265 students from Electrical Engineering Department, Nirma University took part in events including Learning with Arduino workshop, Electric Vehicle workshop, Dragon's Den, Electro Trivia, Assetathon, and Unravel the Knots.



## MESA Day

Mechanical Engineering Students Association (MESA) organised 'MESA Day' - an annual event wherein the Mechanical family comes together to celebrate the foundation of the club. MESA Day was organised on April 11, 2022. MESA day is also used as a platform to bid farewell to the students in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the Mechanical branch. Students and faculty members shared their experiences. The event was inaugurated by Pujya Shri Aksharvatsal Swami, BAPS. MESA General Body meeting was also held after the inauguration where Cadre Captains and Vice Captains were declared. A guest lecture on 'Stress Management' by Mr Sanjay Raval, Motivational speaker, and author was also organised. Followed by the guest lecture, a talent show 'MESA's Got Talent' was held where students of Mechanical Engineering showcased their talent and the best two performers were awarded.



## Literary and Cultural Festivals

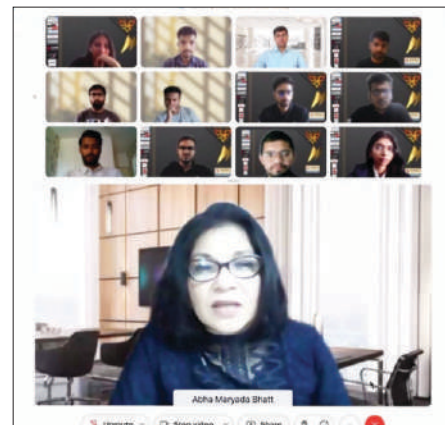
### Kalp 2022

Kalp, the annual fest of the Institute of Architecture and Planning was conducted during March 8-10, 2022. The event started with the inauguration of the exhibition of student's work done throughout the year. The three-day event included lectures by esteemed guests: Prof Jitendra Singh, former director at Amity University, Jaipur; Ms Nafeesa Barot, co-founder of NGO Utthan; Ar Jwalant Mahadevwala, founder of And Black Studio; and Prof Nirav Hirpara, former director Vadodara Design Academy. The event further included an in-house quiz competition, workshops on Knife art and Tie & Dye, a Talent hunt, an Open Mic event, and a Cultural night, among others. A Panel discussion on Architectural Education included panelists like Prof Habeeb Khan, President - Council of Architecture; Prof Jitendra Singh, former director at Amity University, Jaipur; Prof Amogh Kumar Gupta, Chairperson at School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi; and Prof Rajesh Mehta, Director, Institute of Architecture & Interior Designing, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University.



## Perspective Richter 10

Perspective Richter 10, the annual cultural fest of the Institute of Management was organised virtually from Feb 25-27, 2022. The event comprised a plethora of managerial and cultural events. A series of workshops were organised on 'CryptoCurrency & Digital Assets' by Mr Atulya Bhatt, CMO & Co-Founder, BuyUCoin, Blockchain Consultant at Blockkriti along with Priya Bhati, Financial analyst, BuyUCoin, and Tushar Bakshi, Marketing Executive, BuyUCoin; 'Job vs Entrepreneurship vs Higher Education' by Ms Aishwarya Chauhan, Director, student engagement at TALERANG; 'How to handle your first boss' by Mr Animesh Bhatt, Deputy Chief Manager, BCCL. Besides this, eminent personalities and speakers who excel in their respective domains shared their life experiences and journey with the students on Feb 25, 2022.



## Euphoria-Rostrum '22

Institute of Pharmacy celebrated its annual cultural programme Euphoria-Rostrum on March 16-17, 2022. Events included song, dance, drama, Ad-Mad, Mr and Ms Rostrum, Improv etc. Shri Mahesh Mehta, Deputy Director, State NSS Cell, Commissionerate of Higher Education, Government of Gujarat graced the occasion as the Chief Guest during the valedictory function.



## Connaissance 10.0

Institute of Law, Nirma University organised the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of its Annual Cultural and Literary Festival from April 29-May 1, 2022. The festival witnessed participation from across the country for events like The National Quiz, Street Fest, Model United Nations (MUN), Open-Mic, Fashion Show and a host of Fine Arts, Literary and Cultural programmes. The Inaugural ceremony 'Pratyancha' was graced by Padma Shri Sitanshu Yashaschandra Mehta Ji, Gujarati poet and writer, who enlightened the audience with his insights on the present day need to embrace arts and literature towards a more humanitarian approach.



## Elysian 4.0

The flagship annual cultural and literary event of the Institute of Commerce 'Elysian' was organised during April 21-23, 2022. Key speakers for the inaugural day included Mr Parag Parikh, CFO Adani Gas Ltd; CA Bishan R Shah-Chairman, Ahmedabad Branch of WIRC of ICAI; and CA Sunit Shah. The event saw participation from different colleges and universities across Gujarat in various event categories viz, Plan O' Pitch and Inquisitive under the Academic events; Kavyanjali and Turncoat under the Literary events; Drop a Beat - The Dance event, Cadence - The Music event, Felicia - The Fine Arts event, Melange - The Fashion event and Rangmanch - The Theatre event. A Comedy show was also organised as a part of this event. Mr Manan Desai and Mr Chirayu Mistry entertained close to 500 Nirmaites with their performance.



## REDO 2022

Institute of Design, Nirma University organised its fest 'REDO' during April 29-May 1, 2022 on the theme 'Psychaus', a merge of Bauhaus and Psychedelic movements. The merge of these two art movements gives birth to a festival celebrating designers thinking processes with colours and forms. The 3-day fest included team games and activities for institute students and faculty members, a cultural night programme of music and performances by students, a host of talks by eminent personalities, a movie screening, fashion show competition, pizza making competition, and workshops like tattoo design, sheet metal, block making, and coffee making workshop, among others.

## Other Events and Activities

### ICAI Delegation visits Institute of Commerce, Nirma University

A delegation from the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) led by the President of the Institute CMA P Raju Iyer visited the Institute of Commerce on March 27, 2022 to discuss the modus operandi for collaborative activities. Welcoming Mr Iyer who was accompanied by Dr (FCA, FCMA) Murthy, Member of Council - ICAI and Chariman for Journal and Publications Committee; CMA Bhanwarlal Gurjar, Vice Chairman ICMAI, Surat and South Gujarat Chapter; and CMA S N Mundra, Vice President, Kutch Chemical Industries Ltd; Prof Udai Paliwal, Director, Institute of Commerce, Nirma University presented a brief overview of the Institute since inception and shared the future plans including the design of new curriculum for 4-year BCom (Hons) programme. President CMA P Raju Iyer sharing the vision of ICAI provided details about the role of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India in achieving growth and development of the Indian economy towards attaining the coveted goal of a USD 5 trillion economy. Mutual areas of cooperation such as joint organisation of Seminars, Conferences, Webinars, and Workshops; Faculty Development Programmes for Accounting Teachers, Practicing Professionals, Corporate Executives on mutually decided topics at both Regional and National level was discussed in the meeting. Collaboration for exchange of faculty for training and consultancy, and for offering any project in common areas was also explored. The meeting concluded with a proposal that an MoU should be signed between the ICAI and ICNU to fast-track the proposed collaboration.



## Adventure Camp at Manali-Bhrigu

An Adventure Camp was organised by the Students Welfare Board, Nirma University during June 10-18, 2022 at Manali-Bhrigu lake. A total of 41 students from the constituent institutes of Nirma University participated in this camp. Bhrigu Lake trek was the highlight of this camp. The trekking activities were divided into two levels, the first stage was 9500 feet which all the team members reached, and the second and final stage was at an altitude of 14,500 feet which 23 students reached along with Dr Bhavesh Parekh, Coordinator, Students Welfare Board. Other activities included sight-seeing in and around Manali, Yoga workshop, Campfire, Rappelling, Zip Line, River Crossing, Music Night and River Rafting. Prof Snehal Balapure, Assistant Professor, Institute of Design joined the camp as a faculty coordinator.



## Research Orientation Programme 2022

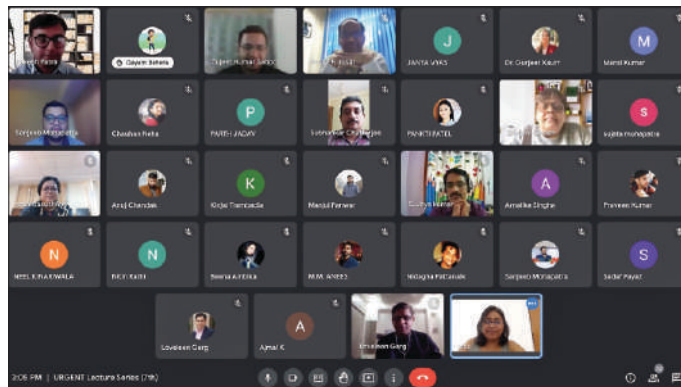
The Directorate of Research and Innovation, Nirma University organised Research Orientation Programme 2022 (ROP 2022) from June 6-18, 2022. The main goal of the programme was to promote research and improve research awareness/outcomes. The chief guest of the inaugural event, Shri Nilesh M Desai, Director, SAC Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Ahmedabad delivered a keynote address on 'Proposals for Advanced Research Topics'. A total of 31 participants from the constituent institutes of the Nirma University underwent the training programme. Resource persons were invited from ISRO, IITs, IISc, IPR, INFLIBNET, and other reputed research organisations.



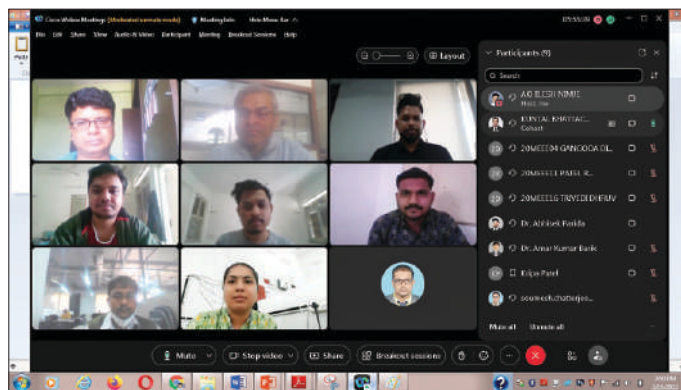
## Other Events

- Institute of Commerce organised a 'Faculty development workshop on Research methodology' during Jan 6-8, 2022. Resource persons Dr Dhaval Maheta, Assistant Professor- Department of Business and Industrial Management, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat; and Dr Hitesh Parmar, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Management (MBA), Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar conducted sessions on topics including Formulating a Research Problem, Identifying Variables, Constructing Hypotheses, Hypothesis Testing and Parametric and Non-Parametric Tests.
- As part of the 'Urban Resilience and Adaptation for India and Mongolia' - URGENT Project, the Institute of Architecture and Planning organised a Lecture series on 'Urban Greens in City Development Plans' by Shri Lovelesh Sharma, Sector Lead, Water and Infrastructure National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi, and Dr Neeru Bansal, Associate Professor, CEPT University on Jan 22, 2022.
- A lecture on 'Exploring Integrated Planning & Urban Design Metrix for a City and Society - A case of Auroville' was conducted by Ar Lalit Kishor Bhati, an Architect and Urban Planner on Jan 28, 2022 at the Institute of Architecture and Planning.
- The IGBC Student Chapter and Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology organised webinars on 'Building Services' on Jan 25 and Jan 27, 2022. The first session was conducted by Mr Nimit Sheth, CEO and Managing Director, Ramana Safety Systems (I) Ltd, Ahmedabad on 'Fire Safety in Buildings'. The second session was conducted by Mr Bhavin Shah, Founder, SQVe Consultants, Ahmedabad on 'Overview of MEP Services for Civil Engineers'.
- Dr Madhushree Basavarajaiah from NVIDIA; Mr Shubham Patel from INTEL; and Mr Sahil Shah from Google conducted expert talks for BTech and MTech students on Jan 11, 2022 on Artificial Intelligence with NVIDIA JETSON; Preparing for interview; and Progressing steadily in the era of Study from home/Work from home, respectively.
- An International Conference on 'Recent Advancements in Materials Science and Nanotechnology (RAMAN)-2022 funded by GUJCOST was organised by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology during Feb 4-5, 2022. Dr Tanusri Saha Dasgupta, Director, S N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences was the chief guest. The invitees of the conference were prominent academicians and scientists from countries like Italy, Argentina, Poland, Tunisia, and Sri Lanka along with India.

- As part of the 'Urban Resilience and Adaptation for India and Mongolia' - URGENT Project a webinar on 'Emerging Environmental Contaminants and Newwater Perspectives of Developing and Developed Countries' was conducted on Feb 26, 2022 by Dr Sanjeeb Mohapatra, Scientist at Energy & Environmental Sustainability, National University of Singapore, and Er Surjeet Kumar Sahoo, Scientist at Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Odisha.



- A workshop on 'Role of Optimisation Techniques in Power Systems' was organised on Feb 19, 2022 by the Department of Electrical Engineering, Institute of Technology in association with the Centre for Continuing Education, Nirma University. Dr Kuntal Bhattacharjee and Dr Akhilesh Nimje, Associate Professors at the department undertook sessions on Introduction to Programme, Power Transfer Capability through FACTS, Introduction to Soft Computing, Different types of Soft Computing Techniques, and Optimum Compensation Location and Loss Reduction.



- Ms Nafisa Barot, the founder Director of Uttan delivered an online lecture on 'Towards Integrating Gender Equality' to the Institute of Pharmacy members on March 8, 2022.
- Mr Ujjawal Jaiswal, Chief Instructor, Rushiraj Karate Kungfu Federation, Ahmedabad, delivered an online lecture on 'Self-defence for Girl students' to the Institute of Pharmacy members on March 10, 2022.



- The International Society of Automation Students' Chapter, Nirma University organised an All-Gujarat Instrumentation and Control Engineers' Meet on April 25, 2022. The purpose of the conclave was to establish a unified forum for discussion and growth in the automation sector. The attendees were made aware of current industry trends through the exchange of knowledge, and ideas.



- A workshop on 'Application of Remote Sensing and GIS in Water Resources Management' was organised by the Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology in association with the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), Nirma University for students, research scholars, faculty members from engineering colleges, polytechnic institutes, and other academic institutes on April 30, 2022. The sessions were conducted by Dr Anant Patel, and Dr Keval Jodhani, Assistant Professors at the Institute of Technology, Nirma University.



- A Guest lecture on 'Design Registration in UK and EU' and 'Introspection of GI Legal Regime' by Prof Gargi Chakraborty (Chair, DIIPT-IPR; NLU, Jodhpur) was organised by the Centre for IPR, Institute of Law on April 25 and 27, 2022.
- A National seminar on 'Smart Power Flow Controllers - A Necessity for Future Power Grid' by Dr Kalyan K Sen, Fulbright and GIAN Scholar, IEEE Distinguished Lecturer & Chief Technology Officer, Sen Engineering Solutions, USA was organised by the Department of Electrical Engineering, Institute of Technology on April 2, 2022. Dr Sen visited the Department from March 28, 2022 to April 9, 2022, and delivered a host of lectures, and interacted with faculty members on various research-related topics.
- Institute of Pharmacy, Nirma University organised a seminar on 'Awareness on Clinical Research and Career Opportunities' jointly with the Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR) and Veeda Clinical Research as a part of International Clinical Trials Day on May 19, 2022. The seminar gave good insight to students about various clinical trials going on in clinical research organisations.
- An interactive session on 'How can design improve quality of life and speed up the green transition of cities and buildings' by Ar Peter Andreas Sattrup, Head of Sustainability, Danish Association of Architectural Firms was conducted by the IGBC Ahmedabad Chapter and Denmark Industries in association with IGBC Student Chapter at Nirma University on June 6, 2022.



- A hands-on training programme on 'Bioinformatics for Academicians' was organised by the Institute of Science during June 8-10, 2022 for the faculties and the research students of Gujarat. The main objective of the programme was to provide them with basic knowledge of bioinformatics to help them in their research work and expand the reasoning for collaborating Bioinformatics in Life Science. Resource persons included Dr Sarat Dalai, Director, Institute of Science, Nirma University; Ms Siddhi Jani, Coordinator, Teaching & Research Associate, ISNU; Dr Gaurav Sharma, DST-INSPIRE Faculty Fellow, Institute of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics; Dr Rakesh Rawal, Professor, Gujarat University; Dr Saumya Patel, Assistant Professor, Gujarat University; Dr Dhaval Patel, Assistant Professor, Gujarat Biotechnology University; Mr Naman Mangukia, Research Scholar, Gujarat University; and Ms Mansi Bhavsar, Research Scholar, Gujarat University. A total of 32 participants attended the event.



## Extension Activities

### Seven Day Special NSS Camp

A Seven Day Special NSS Camp was organised from March 6-12, 2022 at village-Bidada, Bhuj by the Institute of Design. A total of 26 NSS students participated in the camp. The NSS team started the work by conducting a field visit. The main objective of this field visit was to understand the geographical location of the village and the problems faced by the villagers. After understanding the problems of the villagers, the NSS team started working on various educational and awareness possibilities such as creating awareness of the importance of water harvesting systems and maintaining water quality, smart farming techniques, water distribution management, and the importance of organic farming. With the help of the village school, the NSS team conducted various activities for the primary, middle, and secondary school students related to awareness, technical education, and cultural programmes.



## Blood Donation Camp

The Organisation of Civil Engineering Students, in collaboration with NSS-SoE, NSS-ILNU, Students Welfare Board, and Prathama Blood Donation Centre organised a Blood Donation Camp on April 29, 2022 at the Nirma University Campus. Nirma University students, faculty, and staff enthusiastically participated in this worthy cause. A total of 338 units of blood was collected.



## Other Activities

- International Society of Automation Students' Chapter, Nirma University organised a charity drive and visit at Karmyog foundation, Chandkheda, Ahmedabad on March 25, 2022. The students visited the old age home and engaged with the elderly residents. They spent time with them, served them food, and donated to the foundation.



- The MSc students of Semester 2, Institute of Science visited the Blind People Association (BPA), Vastrapur, Ahmedabad on March 23 and March 25, 2022 and donated items collected from the staff, faculty members, and students of the institute.
- Children from Manav Sadhana, an NGO based in Ahmedabad were invited to the Institute of Architecture and Planning on March 10, 2022. Students of the institute spent quality time with the kids with some fun and learning activities like reading and writing, campus tour, making things from origami paper, etc.



# Faculty

## Awards and Achievements

- Dr Madhuri Bhavsar, Professor and Head, Computer Science and Engineering Department received the 'ISTE Shayesta Akhtar Memorial National Award' for the Best Women Engineering College Teacher award category. Nominations for the said award were invited from across the country. Selection criteria consisted of parameters like research, academic achievements, publications, funded projects, methodologies, teaching-learning, administration contributions, and student-centric activities implemented. 
- Dr Sudeep Tanwar, Professor, Institute of Technology won the Dr KW Wong Annual Best Paper Prize for the article Blockchain-based electronic healthcare record system for healthcare 4.0 applications published in Journal of Information Security and Applications, Elsevier. He has also earned 38<sup>th</sup> rank (within India) in the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Top Computer Science Scientists for Computer Science' published by Research.com, one of the major 

websites for Computer Science research offering credible data on scientific contributions since 2014. The ranking contains h-index, publications, and citations values collected on Dec 6, 2021.

- Dr Jai Prakash Verma, Associate Professor, Institute of Technology received Best Paper Award for the paper titled 'A New Approach for Processing Raster Geospatial Big Data in Distributed Environment' in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Advances in Distributed Computing and Machine Learning (ICADCML)-2022, Jan 15-16, 2022. 
- Dr Mayur A Makhesana, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Institute of Technology, was selected for the International Teaching Mobility Programme to visit the Public University of Navarra, Spain. The grant was awarded under the ERASMUS+ Programme of the European Union on May 16, 2022. Dr Makhesana visited the aforesaid university in June 2022. 

# Alumni

## Achievements

Mr Pratik Patel, an MCA alumnus of Nirma University, and Co-founder and Director of Yudiz Solutions Private Limited received the award 'ICT Emerging Tech Leader' at the India National Awards held at The Lalit, New Delhi on March 21, 2022. The award was presented by Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Minister of State for MSME, Government of India.

## Pune Design Festival

Ms Palak Paun, an alumna of the Institute of Design's Visual Communication Programme, and currently preparing for her master's received second position in the 'Battle of Projects, Film, and Animation category' for her Graduation project film 'Sparsh' at the Pune 

Design Festival organised in online mode during Feb 28-March 5, 2022 by the Association of Designers of India (ADI), a network of design professionals that focuses on creating awareness and excellence in design practice.

The film Sparsh was made with the intent to trace and depict the insights, experiences, and stories narrated by the people that she met at the Blind People's Association, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The project is an attempt at understanding how visually impaired people derive meaning from their surroundings. The responses act as a little window into how they perceive objects and spaces through the use of other faculties like touch, olfaction, taste, and auditory perception.

## Alumni Association Meets

### Alumni Association Meet of Institute of Pharmacy

IPNUAA, the Alumni Association of Institute of Pharmacy organised an online alumni meet on Jan 29, 2022. A total of 111 alumni members across all batches attended the event. Prof Manjunath Ghate (President, IPNUAA) delivered the annual report of the Institute, and Dr Dhaivat Parikh (Vice President, IPNUAA) talked about various activities conducted by the Alumni Association. The Heads of Departments and faculty members shared their views for healthy alumni networking. Mr Vicky Takhtani (Manager, Corporate Relations) urged the alumni for support in various placement and training activities. Alumni members shared their experiences and views. Dr Nrupesh Patel (Secretary, IPNUAA) delivered the vote of thanks.

### Online Meeting of alumni of EC department

The Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology organised an online get-together of the EC alumni on Jan 1, 2022. Around 90 alumni and faculty members participated in the event. Dr Dhaval Pujara, HoD of the EC Department address the gathering and briefed about the various activities, including the alumni-sponsored lab started in the department. An open discussion was also held on how the alumni can contribute to the department to strengthen the relationship between alumni and the department.

### Alumni Meet at elnfochips Ltd

The Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Institute of Technology organised an Alumni Meet at elnfochips Ltd, Ahmedabad on June 3, 2022. More than 62 alumni and 11 faculty and staff members participated in the event along with Dr Anup K Singh, Director General, Nirma University. Dr Dhaval Pujara, HoD, EC Department addressed the alumni and briefed them about the alumni activities carried out in the department, especially the Alumni-sponsored Lab set-up in the department.



## Alumni on Campus

- Mr Dipen Patel, Technical Lead for Android CameraX team, and an alumnus of Mechanical Engineering department, Institute of Technology delivered a talk on 'Opportunities and challenges for higher education and jobs outside India for BTech and MTech students' on Jan 5, 2022.
- Alumni of Chemical Engineering Department, Institute of Technology Mr Karan Shah (Krishna Enterprise), Ms Mudra Sisodiya (Operation Engineer at Reliance Industries), and Mr Aakash Gandhi (Assistant Manager, Rallis India Limited) interacted virtually with the current students in Jan 2022 and delivered talks on Career Counselling, Bridging the Gap, and Managing Innovations.
- Ms Nishtha Pandey, Senior Technical Safety Engineer at Shell Bangalore, an alumnus of the Chemical Engineering Department, Institute of Technology interacted with the students on Feb 28, 2022 and shared her journey and experiences.
- IEI (Institution of Engineers of India) Students' Chapter, Civil Engineering Department, Institute of Technology organised a webinar on 'Career Talks and Further Studies in US' on Feb 26, 2022. The webinar was conducted by alumni of the Civil Engineering department. They include Mr Harnish Marwadi, OCS Field Engineer, Balfour Beatty US, California; Mr Dhyey Bhavsar, Design Engineer, Kurt Fischer Structural Engineering, Los Angeles; Mr Nishit Prajapati, Project Engineer, Ghilotti Construction, San Francisco Bay area, CA; Mr Aagam Dalal, Senior Project Engineer, Herrero Builders, San Francisco; and Mr Tej Desai, Associate Estimator, Performance Contracting Inc, Lakeland, Florida.
- The Electronics and Communication Students' Organisation (ECO) conducted 'Placement Mantra-2022' in online mode for BTech semester 4 and 6 students during March 19-27, 2022. Eight alumni of the Institute of Technology guided the students and delivered a talk about their placement journey, experiences, and tips for preparing for exams, interviews, etc. Speakers included Ms Nehal Goyal (ARM), Mr Purvansh Shah (Goldman Sachs), Mr Divyesh Ranpariya (NVIDIA), Mr

Parin Parikh (IBM), Mr Vardhan Batavia (Silicon Labs), Ms Amita Mohta (Infineon Technologies), Ms Ramika Chakhaiyar (ZS associates) and Mr Viraj Mankad (SAC ISRO).

- Mr Meet Patel, an alumnus of MTech-Embedded Systems (2014-2016) and currently associated with NXP semiconductors in the software development area visited the Nirma University campus on March 10, 2022 and guided the students of the batch of 2021-2023 Embedded Systems for the upcoming NXP semiconductors Internship drive.

## Vichar Vinimay

Swayam, the Entrepreneurship Club of the Institute of Management in collaboration with the Strategy and Entrepreneurship area of the institute facilitated a 'Vichar-Vinimay' session on Jan 1, 2022. Alumni of the institute Mr Harshil Manvani, owner of Sindhu Ultramarine Chemicals Pvt Ltd, and Mr Manvendra Singh Shekhawat owner of luxury hotels in Rajasthan: Suryagadh, Jaisalmer; Narendra Bhavan, Bikaner; and Lakshminivas Palace, Bikaner were invited to share the dilemma that they had faced with their company. Their case study was then discussed among the faculty members to understand how an entrepreneur solves a problem they face.

Another such session was hosted on Feb 10, 2022. Mr Preet Shah, founder of Revolve Green, Ahmedabad, a concept marketing firm in recycled fabrics that make and promote fabrics out of waste PET bottles; and Mr Ashish Rochwani, founder of Bonding Gifts, provides a wide range of gifts online from paper products to wooden gifts designed and manufactured by them participated in the session. They both presented the case studies of their organisations to the faculty members of the Institute of Management and discussed the future course of action for their respective organisation.



## Alumni Speak

We are pleased to feature our two alumnae in this section. While Ms Minal Rohit Sampat is a graduate from the first batch of Electronics & Communications Engineering, Institute of Technology, Ms Ananya Gupta is a graduate from the first batch of Industrial Design, Institute of Design, Nirma University.

### My Alma Mater

#### **Ms Minal Rohit Sampat**

Institute of Technology (Class of 1999)  
Scientist at Space Applications Centre  
ISRO, Ahmedabad



Experience: What does it say? It is a reflection showing how we travelled a path not known before the commencement of this journey and during the journey what we do with all the learnings we gathered enroute. Here I write about my experiences and my learnings during my graduation programme at the Institute of Technology, Nirma University.

But, before I start with describing my journey, it would be worth mentioning that no matter how each one's experience is in his/her journey it depends on what we gathered for ourselves in that journey; it could be memories, friends-for-life, some eye-opening findings about why you are on this path, and for some it could also be a journey that was just about reaching the destination but no other concrete end-goal other than reaching the final destination. No two persons would have the same experience even if they started at the same time, travelled the same route and reached the same destination.

It is very easy, I think, when you have to describe your experiences of graduating from an Engineering college that is well-established, has its brand-name known, has a whole lot of seniors who graduated and got settled in big companies and proudly sharing the do's and don'ts on how to make it to Infosys, Wipro, Google, Facebook, Qualcomm, Accenture, Robert-Bosch, and many more. But here, we were the first batch of an Engineering college unknown to the world, a college that was yet to get its college building, a place where probably we were to become seniors for others but we didn't have anyone to look at as seniors. It was an experience of starting up your own.

My journey at Nirma Institute of Technology, Ahmedabad (now renamed as Institute of Technology, Nirma University) was indeed the way I described above. I remember the first day of the inauguration of Nirma Institute at Thaltej in Bhavin Vidya Mandir school campus. It was a mixed feeling exactly opposite or if I may say completely 360 degree apart the way Bollywood movies depict colleges. We were just getting the feeling of being back to school with strict management making it all feel like a boarding school where we had to do things a certain way. But they say discipline is good as it inculcates a process and purpose. As the first batch; we got all the attention from professors, lecturers and management. We both, as students and as college both had to establish ourselves. So, it was all the more important to keep an eagle's eye on everything that we do towards becoming successful. It wouldn't be wrong to say that we and the massive college wings/buildings that we see as today's NIRMA University both grew up at the same time. We had good professors and young lecturers as a mix trying to do their best to equip us for our future. A lot of attention was being given to getting us equipped with practical knowledge although a large part of studies still revolved around books with pages that seemed never ending. It all looked and weighed like bricks. Neither opening up any page could offer glimpses of pictures but rather they would bombard all sorts of equations with the weirdest looking Greek symbols explaining some math behind the logic.

The first-year subjects seemed all mixed, as we were wondering what Surveying the ground with dumpy levels and other instruments had got to do with our branch of Engineering in Electronics . Engineering Drawing was another such monster subject for me. We thought maybe the first year was a glimpse of all branches of engineering so one could make a choice from the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. However, one part that all of us were in agreement with is the maths subject. Both the professor and subject seemed interesting, especially the way it was taught. The class of "Surveying" as a subject seemed like a FUN PT-class as our lecturer would take us out in the field and teach us various surveying methods using different survey instruments. That was fun. Another really interesting subject was practical machining jobs where each one of us had to prepare a carpentry or iron smithing job. I think the first year seemed just fun.



Dr A P J Abdul Kalam while addressing the audience in one of his speech said, "Look at the sky. We are not alone. The whole universe is friendly to us and conspires only to those who dream and work."

I remember the day of the First Year Award ceremony of Nirma Institute of Technology. This was organised at the new campus which is currently known as Nirma University. We all went to the new campus in Nirma bus excited about the ceremony. During the ceremony the medals were awarded to the first-year rankers from the college. Sitting on the chair, as one among the audience, I thought to myself, "Where do I need to improve to be there on that stage and receive that Gold Medal". That was the day I promised myself that I will not leave any stone unturned and I will give my best effort. With the guidance of my professors, help from my dear friends, moral support from my parents and self-motivation to achieve something, success was not behind. Since then, I have never looked back. I understood one thing that there is no shortcut in life and one must work hard and have clear goals in life to achieve success.

After completing my four years in college, when I was out in the market trying to be the best in the industry, I realised that success cannot be judged by Medals, Awards you win. Instead, you need clear goals, good mentors in your growth path who will tell you and inspire you to do your best and finally your determination and patience to be at it until you achieve it. According to me success is how your life inspires others, how your efforts are getting transferred to improve the common man's life, how you bring happiness in others life.

My college has given me dreams and also showed me how to achieve my dreams.

Finally, I would like to conclude with the famous saying, "When there is a will, there is a Way".

In Bhagavad Geeta, it is said:

"Karmanye Vadhika raste  
Ma Phaleshu Kadachana,  
Ma Karma Phal Hetur Bhurma Tey  
Sangostva-karmani"

This means: Do your duty with full faith and devotion and be totally detached from its outcome. Don't work merely to reap the fruits and never let the result overshadow your karma.

In the end, I would like to express my heartiest gratitude to Nirma Institute of Technology for giving me such a wonderful opportunity to share my experiences and thoughts.



## Thank You Note on the Occasion of Graduation Day

### Ms Ananya Gupta

Institute of Design (Class of 2021)

UX Researcher in Cars24



Four years ago, in this very hall, we were welcomed to this place by these very people and today, we are here, standing before them, I draped in a saree, expressing our gratitude. This feeling, it is so surreal, it feels whole and complete.

I don't know how well I would be able to present my gratitude in a 3.5 minute note, but I'll try....

I have a colleague who recently asked me, (and this actually happened by the way) what else/apart did you do in design college, that one couldn't through any online design courses ..listening to this I paused and wondered ...this fellow my friend, who clearly didn't have the fortune of attending a design school - how to explain our four years in 2 lines.

So, I asked myself what is our definition of a design school?

Here we go...

It is a Place where misfits believe they belong together/somewhere

It is a place where You can never-ever get straight feedback from your faculties

It is, asking your friends to finish your work because you are "supposedly" ill

It is also a place where we drank approximately 29,203 cups of chai over charchas and long conversations with our friends and faculties.

What really makes a design school- is the environment, our friends, friends in the form of teachers, who gave us the freedom to think, the space for self-discovery, the eye to observe our surroundings, so much so that, to this day - that we often find ourselves staring at a machine and wonder 'ki yeh kaam kese karta h'.

It has penetrated in our blood so deep, that we can never ignore lack of signage's everywhere we go, and wonder every freaking time we open a door, the relevance of handle, if ultimately, we had to push it.

What we also learned - was to take criticism with an open heart, because this is inevitable in almost every phase of life and relationship, and the more openly we accept, the better we are able to think for the next steps.

Sanjeev sir once said, Never Ask for permission always ask for forgiveness, and after that I stopped asking my parents for permission to go out with friends, sadly it isn't true, but this thought pushes to never limit ourselves from exploring.

During these years, time wasn't very sparkly for us. We all had our fair shares of ups and down, we've all at some point hit rock bottom. Remember those nights, talking to each other "yr yeh kya kar rahe h ham life k saath"? And then reaching out to one of the faculties the next day in C block, after lunch, trying to figure it out.

But the most important fact is that we came up, they guided us - we all are floating somewhere somehow. Because We all accepted a challenge, worked hard enough, strove through and came across.

To answer to my friend - here, we became better learners, because Hamne yeh seekha ki seekhte kese h. We have that will to always, accept whatever life throws at us and thrive beyond that. We all are still figuring, but we became capable individuals, capable enough to realise that this is a journey towards growth and improvement.

Prof Amit Gulati, once said- If you are not being an asset to this world, to this society, then you are just a structure giving out CO2.

To this day, these words ring in my ears, and cultivate the fire to become better than yesterday, to not only exist, but become a helping element in this system. Today, we want to use design to solve problems of this world and we want to do good for our ecosystem.

Because of this we want to use this tool to become problem solvers of the world, become better individual, creators, helping element in this system, question the system by being a part of the system. Better contributors.

As Suresh Sir, correctly said - Striking a fire is important but preserving it, is the challenge.

And for this preservation we, Thank you for not defining us by a 9-6 pm job, otherwise where is that hustle for doing more. Thank you for not presenting us a Thali of answers and, giving us buffet of options, enough to engage us. And lastly, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our faculties, friends, acquaintances and even these walls for building this wonderful community and bringing us to this day, the next and more such to come.





## Editorial Board

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