

Spring is coming....



IUT International E-Newsletter

A window to International activities of IUT

Volume 2, Issue No. 5

February 2021



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- IUT Awards and Honors
- An Overview on IUT International Activities – DAAD Funding Program
- Swiss Desk Cooperates with ZHAW as its Counterpart till 2024
- Three Questions that must be answered before the year 1400 begins



MSRT Virtual Symposium on Development of Cooperation with International Organizations and Institutes

This virtual symposium was held on Sunday, February 21, 2021, hosted by MSRT. In this meeting, **Prof. Dr. Salar Amoli**, the Acting Minister of Science, Research and Technology for international affairs, talked about the importance of international organizations such as the United Nations, OPEC, ECO, and D-8 that shows the need for more convergence in the region. He added that the important point in this globalization era is that each country relinquishes part of its national sovereignty and gains a part of the globalization sovereignty. He also suggested that every higher education institute should try to become a member of at least four or five international organizations and unions. In this regard, they should make the necessary coordination with MSRT and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Baharvand, Deputy Minister of the Legal and International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the next speaker said: "Iran has been very successful with its active presence and cooperation with international organizations and unions with competent representatives that we have had." He added that higher education institutes should try to be more active in making international norms and laying out new laws and standards. By joining these organizations, we should try to benefit from their experiences and have a purposeful presence.

For the rest of the meeting, some deputies and directors of universities' international relations and research organizations expressed their views and opinions. **Prof. Dr. Mohammad Javad Omid**, Acting President in International Affairs and Technology Infrastructures at Isfahan University of Technology, and Director of the UNESCO Regional Center of IRIS, presented a report on the activities of IRIS and some of its problems and challenges.

Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Tabrizchi, a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of SESAME in Iran and a distinguished professor at the IUT Department of Chemistry, gave a brief overview from a SESAME-related report on "Synchrotron Light for Experimental Science and Application in the Middle East."

[Read more...](#)



Prof. Dr. Hossein Salar



Dr. Mohsen Baharvand



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Javad Omid

Expanding the IUT Campus by Merging Golpayegan University of Technology into IUT

According to the plan for organizing higher education centers, **Golpayegan University of Technology** is merged with Isfahan University of Technology.

This merging plan and other similar ones aim at making larger universities with more improvement and quality so that larger universities monitor the issues such as faculty members, the quality of teaching, and research in these universities.

According to the results of the evaluations and studies conducted by the Ministry of Science, it has been decided that the three universities of Golpayegan, Khansar, and Shahreza in Isfahan province should be merged into large universities.

The Minister of Science, Research and Technology mentioned that this plan aims at organizing universities and higher education centers with higher qualities.

Prof. Dr. Mansour Gholami, the Minister of Science, Research and Technology, stated that this plan aims at organizing universities and higher education centers with higher qualities and when small universities are merged into large universities, their research and technology activities will be strengthened, which is itself a great achievement for increasing the quality of their work.



Prof. Dr. Behzad Niroomand

Prof. Dr. Behzad Niroomand, a faculty member of the Department of Materials Engineering at IUT is appointed by the President of IUT as "The Director of the merging Plan for the Golpayegan University of Technology". [Read more...](#)

The Meeting of IUN Members with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs



This joint meeting was held at Isfahan University of Medical Sciences in the presence of **Seyed Kazem Sajjadi**, the Deputy Minister of Consular Affairs of the Parliament from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the presidents and directors of international scientific cooperation centers of these universities. The meeting mainly focused on university capacities with an approach to the international capabilities of the IUN members.

In this meeting, the results of the international activities and achievements in IUN and the universities and research institutes' expectations and needs to cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were discussed by the heads of the IUN members. [Read more...](#)



IUT Awards and Honors:

Prof. Dr. Meysam Akbarzadeh, a faculty member and the Head of the Department of Transportation Engineering, won the Award of Georg Forster Research Fellowship for Experienced researchers from Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in 2021. This award is for 18 months of research work at the “Chair of Traffic Engineering and Control,” TUM, Germany.



Prof. Dr. Meysam Akbarzadeh

The Humboldt Prize, also known as the Humboldt Research Award, is an award given by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of Germany to internationally renowned scientists and scholars who work outside of Germany. Every year, the Foundation grants more than 700 competitive research fellowships and awards, primarily going to academics from natural sciences (mathematics included) and the humanities. It allows scientists and scholars from all over the world to come to Germany to work on a research project they have chosen themselves together with a host and collaborative partner. Additionally, it funds German scholars via the Feodor Lynen Fellowships to go anywhere in the world to work on a research project with a host and collaborative partner, who must have held an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship him or herself. In particular, these fellowships and awards include a number of large prizes, such as Humboldt Professorships and The Sofia Kovalevskaya Awards. Fellowships and awards from the Foundation are considered to be among the most prestigious and generous awards in Germany. More information about Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is available on: <https://www.humboldt-foundation.de>



IUT-KTH Collaboration in Additive Manufacturing

3D printing or additive manufacturing is a fabrication technology that is rapidly revolutionizing the manufacturing and construction sectors. This technology has emerged as an environmentally friendly green manufacturing technology that brings great benefits, such as energy-saving matters, less material consumption, and efficient production. There has been a big rise in the application of the printed products in automotive, biomedical, and many other engineering sectors.

Prof. Dr. Masoud Atapour, an Associate Professor of the Materials Engineering Department at IUT, has started a big collaboration with KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm for developing new materials for biomedical applications. From this joint program, two interesting papers were published in high-prestige journals of *Electrochimica Acta*, and the *Electrochemical Society* in 2020. This cooperation has been continued in 2021, and two MSc and one PhD students of IUT are working on this modern key topic. The newly published papers are available on:



Prof. Dr. Masoud Atapour

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013468620311415>

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1149/1945-7111/abb6cd/meta>

Renewal of the ICRANet - IUT Agreement



ICRANet

Due to the fruitful bilateral collaboration between IUT and the International Center for Relativistic Astrophysics Network - ICRANet, a protocol of cooperation that was signed in 2016 has been extended to five more years.

Also, some programs namely Dual Degree Ph.D. programs, Joint research under EU program for 2021-2027, Joint Mobility program under Erasmus+ program, Exchanging Academic members and Ph.D. students for using their sabbatical leaves and choosing adjunct professorship, and organizing joint webinars and online workshops in mutual fields of interest, have been added to the agreement.

The ICRANet office in the IUT was inaugurated by **Prof. Remo Ruffini**, the Director of ICRANet, International Centre for Relativistic Astrophysics Network, together with the IUT former President, during a formal opening ceremony in 2016. The main purposes of establishing this office that is located at the Department of Physics of IUT are developing research activities in relativistic astrophysics, organizing workshops and schools, and exchanging researchers, faculty members, and graduate students. The establishment of this office is followed by the past scientific collaboration between IUT researchers and students with ICRANet.

IUT reached a Great Collaboration with ICRANet

The department of physics of IUT reached a great collaboration with ICRANet center in Italy and **Prof. Ruffini's** group here in ICRANet-Isfahan. A very fruitful cooperation in the past year has been started, and it has been increased by the great efforts of **Prof. Dr. Soroush Shakeri**, the faculty member of the Physics Department. The very recent achievements with ICRANet members, which are published in the last version of the International ICRANet Newsletter, are available at:



Prof. Dr. Soroush Shakeri

http://icranet.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1356

Occasions:

International Day of Women and Girls in Science – 11 February



Science and gender equality are both vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At present, less than 30 percent of researchers worldwide are women.

In order to achieve full and equal access to potentials in science for women and girls, and further achievements in gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution A/RES/70/212 declaring **11 February** as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated the critical role of women scientists in different stages of the fight against COVID-19. This year's celebration of the Day addressed the theme "Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19" and gathered together experts working in the fields related to the pandemic from different parts of the world.

Holding Webinars:

Educational Workshop on “Psychology of International Negotiation”, for IUT Academic Members and Staff

IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center, with the collaboration of the Office of Monitoring and Evaluation, held an Educational Workshop on "Psychology of International Negotiations, Building Bridges or Gaining Benefits?" for the faculty members of IUT, in which **Prof. Dr. Seyed Mohsen Fatemi**, a Post-doc in Psychology from Harvard University, a faculty member of Ferdowsi University, and an adjunct professor of York University, Canada, was the speaker. The webinar was held for 2:30 hr on February 7, 2021.



Prof. Dr. Seyed Mohsen Fatemi

A Webinar on “Analysis of Climate Hazards with Emphasis on Floods and Drought”

A webinar on “Analysis of Climate Hazards with Emphasis on Floods and Drought” was held by the IUT Center of Excellence on Risk and Crisis Management on February 9, 2021.

Prof. Dr. Seyed Saeed Islamian, **Prof. Dr. Seyed Reza Modarres**, and **Prof. Dr. Hamid Reza Safavi** from Isfahan University of Technology, and **Prof. Sergio M. Vicente–Serrano** from the Department of Geoenvironmental Processes, Spanish National Research Council, and **Prof. Attilio Castellarin**, from the **University of Bologna** in Italy, were the esteemed speakers of this international webinar.

A Joint Webinar with DAAD and DFG of Germany

IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center organized a webinar on: "Joint Research & Funding Opportunities in Germany" with the attendance of professors and directors of international cooperation centers from the German Research Foundation, **Dr. Jörg Schneider**, Head of the International Affairs, and **Ms. Dorothea Fendel**, from International Affairs of Iran -DFG, and **Dr. Ahmad Keshavarzi**, head of the German Academic Exchange Institute in Tehran (DAAD), on February 17, 2021.

The webinar was attended by almost 350 people online. The recorded session of the webinar is available on the IUT International website and its IGTV is accessible on Instagram (@IUT_International). <https://international.iut.ac.ir/en/node/998>

Joint Research & Funding Opportunities in Germany

Speakers:

- Dr. Jörg Schneider**, Head of International Affairs, DFG
 - The German Research Foundation within the German System of Research and Innovation
- Ms. Dorothea Fendel**, International Affairs, DFG
 - DFG Funding Opportunities for International Collaboration
- Mr. Ahmad Keshavarzi** / Head of DAAD Branch Office in Tehran
 - DAAD Mobility Funding: Individual Scholarships and Grants for Academic Partnerships

Date: 17.02.2021 | **Time:** 15:00-17:30 (IR)
Registration Link: <https://evnd.co/vbiXR>

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Logos: IUT, RWTH Aachen University, DFG, DAAD

An Overview on IUT International Activities - DAAD Funding Programs

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is a self-governing organization of German universities with 241 member universities and 104 student bodies.

DAAD supports international partnerships through several funding programs for higher education institutions.

Goals and Tasks of the DAAD:

Expertise for Academic Collaborations, Structures for Internationalization, Scholarships for the Best

DAAD Scholarships Features:

- Funding for studying abroad or conducting thesis research
- No subject-related quota
- Previous knowledge of German not required but advantageous
- Monthly stipend
- Health Insurance
- Travel reimbursement
- All-Grantees meeting in Bonn
- No scholarships for undergraduates

Various Funding Opportunities for Studying & Doing Research in Germany:

- Development-Related Postgraduate Courses (EPOS)
- Paths to a PhD Individual vs. structured PhD
- Research grants:
 - Doctoral programs in Germany
 - One-year and short-term grants
 - Binationally supervised doctoral degrees
- Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience (PRIME)
- Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists
- Group Study Visit



For more information, you may visit: <http://www.gerit.org/en/>



Zurich University of Applied Science– **ZHAW** is to continue the excellent collaboration with the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation– SERI, in Switzerland, its fellow leading Houses, and the SNSF Swiss National Science Foundation. It remains the Leading House for South Asia and Iran until 2024.

Mr. Waseem Hussain, the Head of International Affairs Office, has released this news. During the past four years, IUT as the Leading House and National Scientific Contact Point with Swiss universities and scientific higher education bodies developed strong collaboration ties between the two countries on cutting-edge research in various fields.

IUT Swiss Desk, in close collaboration with ZHAW, has defined several funding instruments in order to promote and foster scientific cooperation between Iranian and Swiss Universities and Research Institutes since 2018. The two parties have defined and implemented three different funding instruments to date and are negotiating to develop the same. The implemented instruments are as follows:

Mobility Grants: Mobility grants enable young scientists to integrate with international research & development. It is available for Iranian and Swiss students and young researchers to spend short research stays in partner universities and research institutes.

Seed Money Grants: Seed Money Grants aim to develop or consolidate the existing partnerships between Iranian and Swiss institutions by supporting research themes that tackle challenges in Iran and Switzerland.

Bridging Grants: Bridging grants are offered to researchers who have already successfully completed a joint project between Iran and Switzerland with the possibility to continue joint research to prepare a grant application for a full joint research project.



Three Questions you must Answer before the Year 1400 Begins:

How we may turn the coming year 1400 into a year full of personal progress and success? Here are some Questions that must be answered before starting the coming year and there are some suggestions for a better happier year:

How do I want to feel in the new year?

Try to be precise. If the answer to the question is "happier" for you, specify exactly what you mean by **laughter**, **smile**, or **satisfaction**.

What do I want to do less? What makes you feel **frustrated** and **waste your time**? Consider spending less time or making it more **enjoyable**.

What do I want to do more in the new year? When you look at the past year, do you think you allocated **enough time** for yourself? Or did you do things that you were really **passionate** about?



Do not bring these items with you to the new year:



Not trying and not taking action for fear of failure

Doing everything by yourself, because you don't trust others to be able to do things properly.

nagging about everything, without taking a single step to make it better

Compete with people who are not in competition with you.

Gossiping about others to make you feel better about yourself

Procrastination and postponing things to another time

In order to expand the university's international Scientific interactions with overseas academic institutions, the IUT International is publishing this electronic Newsletter on international relations and in line with the IUT mission towards a Green University.

You are invited to register your email here to receive the new issue of the Newsletter upon its publication. You can also correspond with the editorial board from here to convey your valuable comments and suggestions to send materials related to IUT to be published in future issues of the Newsletter.

To see the previous issues and more information on the newsletter, please click here.

In addition to being distributed via social networks, this Newsletter will also be available through the following QR code. Your constructive participation in this path will guide us toward our goals.



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Your constructive and valuable comments and suggestions are most welcomed.

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