## Isfahan University of Technology



# **IUT International E-Newsletter**

A Window to International Activities of IUT

Volume 3, Issue No. 3

**December 2021** 



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#### 2022 New Year's Message from the IUT President

Dear Colleagues and Students,

As we continue to navigate the disruptions and challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, I'd like to express my true appreciation and sincere gratitude towards the hard work and ingenuity shown by our faculty and staff in



recent year. All of you worked tirelessly to develop and implement ways to support our students and help sustain their academic progress.

I'd also like to thank our students for being patient and flexible under such stressful circumstances and hope everything gets back to normal for the next semester.

I look forward to seeing you on campus again soon. In the meantime, we will get through this by working together, looking out for each other, and lifting each other up.

I am very proud of our students, faculty and staff. Also I am so proud to be your president and to serve this great university.

Accept my best wishes for a wonderful and happy New Year 2022 filled with health and prosperity.

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Prof. S. Ali M. Mirmohammady Maibody

**IUT President** 

#### Wishing a Happy New Year



Dear All,

We, at IUT, join in wishing you a happy and prosperous new year and would like to express our gratitude for all your work and cooperation this year. I hope we overcome this pandemic crisis and together mark a better future. May the year 2022 mark the beginning of a year of peace, health and prosperity.

Happy New Year 2022!

Best wishes,

Prof. Mohammad Javad Omidi Director of IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center

## **IUT International News**

**JUT in ISC World University Rankings 2021**:

According to ISC World University Rankings 2021, IUT is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Technological University and 4<sup>th</sup> Comprehensive University in Iran.



2,300 universities from 107 countries and 6 continents were evaluated by this ranking system based on which IUT is ranked 701-800 globally, and 3rd among the technological universities of Iran. IUT is ranked 4th among 51 comprehensive universities in Iran.

To rank the world's universities, this global ranking system studies the most important missions of universities including research, education, innovation, and international activities, and evaluates universities accordingly. In the criteria of this ranking, the qualitative and quantitative dimensions of research are examined simultaneously.

25 comprehensive universities and 17 universities of medical sciences from Iran are in this ranking list, from which 9 are technological universities and Isfahan University of Technology is one of them. Read more...

#### Signing an MOU between IUT & RWTH Aachen University



A Memorandum of Understanding between the **Center of Excellence for Risk Management and Natural Hazards (RIMANAH), Isfahan University of Technology** (Iran), and **RWTH Aachen University** (Germany) for the **Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Water Resources Management (IWW)** was signed.

According to this MOU, RIMANAH IUT and Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Water Resources Management (IWW), RWTH Aachen University, Germany, wish to develop goodwill and expand interaction in research and education on flood

risk management in semi-arid areas between the two universities.

HOWAMAN project is about "Sustainable strategies and technologies for Flood Risk Management in Arid and Semi-Arid areas" in Iran. This research project will be able to enhance the bilateral partnership and facilitate the flood risk management concerns in Iran, and agree on: Joint research lectures, academic meetings, seminars, webinars, and symposiums, exchange of faculty members and students, exchange of visiting scholars for faculty members, exchange of information and materials on mutual interests related to flood risk management, and special short-term training programs. The IUT Initiator of this MOU is **Prof. Dr. Seyed Saied Eslamian**, head of the center of excellence in Risk Management and Natural Hazards (RIMANAH), Isfahan University of Technology.



Dr. S. Eslamian

#### **IUT International News:**

#### World Soil Day Conference at Isfahan University of Technology

World Soil Day Conference was held on December 6, 2021. The Department of Soil Science and Engineering held this event with the efforts of the Soil Science Association of the College of Agricultural Engineering at IUT and the presence of a group of intellectuals and students. The head of Isfahan Jihad Agricultural Organization and some scholars of the Soil and Water Research Institute of Isfahan Province attended the conference. This conference emphasized serious changes in management approaches of soil resources as the main platform for protecting natural resources. **Mr. Mehrdad Moradmand**, Head of

Jihad Agricultural Organization of Isfahan Province, said that the cooperation between Jihad Agricultural Research Centers and universities should be strengthened and also talked about the key role of the cooperation of university professors about soil and agriculture. **Prof. Dr. Mohammadali Haj Abbasi**, the secretary of this event, specified that the study of soil is important in the global approach to this phenomenon and the period from 2015 to 2024 has been called "the International Decade of Soils" by the United Nations. "Holding such conferences will help to converge the collaborating systems in agricultural and environmental research, and numerous studies are carried out on soil and water in research institutes



and universities by which we can discuss problems and conduct forces properly and in specific directions in the province", Prof. Dr. Haj Abbasi said. Every year, December 5 is designated by the United Nations as "World Soil Day" to raise public awareness about soil as a major factor in agricultural productions.

#### Holding Webinars:

The Department of Civil Engineering of IUT held a webinar on "Climate change implications on the global water infrastructure: issues, implications and possible ways forward" by Ashish Sharma, Professor of Hydrology and Water Resources School of Civil and Environmental Engineering University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, on December 15, 2021.

**Prof. Dr. Milad Aminzadeh**, a faculty member of the IUT Civil Engineering Department, was the host of this event.



Prof. Ashish Sharma

Another webinar on "Women in Science and International Associations, Scholarships and Grants" was held by the University President's Consultation Office on Women's



ts" was held by the University President's Consultation Office on Women's Affairs & the Vice-presidency for Research at IUT on December 28, 2021.

**Dr. Maryam Salami** from the Department of Mathematical Sciences was the speaker and **Prof. Dr. Behnaz Omoomi** was the host of this event.



The list of Highly Cited Researchers includes researchers who have published at least one paper among the top one percent of all papers in that field. The faculty members from the College of Agricultural Engineering are on this list with the highest number. **Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shahedi**, **Prof. Dr. Ali Nasirpour**, **Prof. Dr. Seyed Amirhossein Goli**, **Prof. Dr. Mehdi Rahim Malek**, **Prof. Dr. Mohammadreza Mosadeghi**, **Prof. Dr. Milad Fathi**, and **Prof. Dr. Shamsollah Ayoubi** in the field of agricultural engineering are on this list. **Prof. Dr. Behzad Rezaei** and **Prof. Dr. Aliasghar Ensafi** from the Department of Chemistry, **Prof. Dr. Mohammadhossein Fathi**, **Prof. Dr. Morteza Sham'anian** and **Prof. Dr. Mohammadreza Toroghinejad** from the Department of Materials Engineering, **Prof. Dr. Hossein Farzanehfard**, from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, **Prof. Dr. Keykhosrow Karimi**, from the Department of Chemical Engineering, and **Prof. Dr. Mohammad Reza Salimpour**, from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, are also other highly cited professors at IUT.

All the scientific activities of the last 10 years from 2011 to 2021 at the international level, including the number of papers, number of citations, and number of highly cited papers have been considered in this ranking. Other issues such as observing ethical principles in research, observing self-citation to an acceptable level, as well as retrieved papers, have been effective in selecting these researchers.

#### **IUT Awards & Honors:**

#### IEEE Iran Section Award Announcement for the Year 2021





**Prof. Dr. Vahid Ghaffarinia**, a faculty member and the head of the Avionics Research Institute of IUT, won the **Dr. Fakhraei Award of "IEEE**".

Dr. Vahid Ghaffarinia, a young Associate Professor at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and the director of the Avionics Research Institute of IUT, won the Dr. Seyed Mehdi Fakhraei Award from the IEEE branch of Iran.

The 12<sup>th</sup> IEEE Award Ceremony in Iran, which was held online, was attended by prominent professors of electrical and computer engineering in Iran, researchers, entrepreneurs, and industry veterans, students, consultants and other members of the Iranian branch of IEEE.

The award is given annually to a faculty member in the field of electrical

or computer engineering and subgroups of microelectronics, hardware, and digital systems, based on the evaluation and recognition of the jury.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), is a professional, non-profit international organization that aims to help advance technology in general and areas related to electrical and computer engineering and related fields in particular. It has more than 400,000 members in 160 countries.

#### A Research Grant from EU Marie Curie for IUT





**Prof. Dr. Mohammad Silani**, a faculty member of the Department of Mechanical Engineering has had an international collaboration at IUT which is led to achieving the goals of the transformation plan at this department.

This collaboration is a research project entitled "An adaptive concurrent multi-scale method for modeling wear" by which Dr. Silani won the EU Marie Curie Research Grant through the Seal of Excellence.



Prof. Dr. M. Silani

In conducting this 2-year study, Dr. Franco Concli from

the Free University of Bolzano in Italy is the host of this project. The grant given to this research activity by the European Union is €107,900.

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More information about this research grant will be given in the current issue in the following.

#### What is the Seal of Excellence and How to Receive it ?

**The Seal of Excellence** is a quality label awarded by the Commission to proposals which has been assessed in a call for proposals under a Union instrument and are deemed to comply with the quality requirements of that Union instrument but could not be funded due to budgetary constraints. These projects are judged to deserve funding and might receive support from other Union or national sources of funding.

The Seal of Excellence certificate recognizes the value of the proposal and helps other funding bodies take advantage of the high-quality Commission evaluation process.

Under Horizon Europe, the EU's research and innovation funding program until 2027, the quality and impact of the Seal of Excellence will be strengthened. The uptake of the Seal of Excellence in Structural Funds programs will be further promoted in the context of reinforcing synergies between the R&I Framework programs and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

Seal of Excellence is currently awarded to proposals that apply under

- EIC Accelerator
- EIC Transition (only individual SME applicants are eligible for Seal of Excellence)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) postdoctoral fellowships
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) COFUND
- Teaming

#### How you receive the Seal of Excellence

The Seal of Excellence is delivered together with the Evaluation Result Letter (ERL) in the <u>Funding and</u> <u>Tender Opportunities Portal.</u>

Seal holders need to log in to the portal with the email address with which they were invited to the proposal. In the section 'My proposal(s)' under the 'actions' menu corresponding to your proposal, and under the 'follow up' option, the PPGMS (Participant Portal – Grant Management Services) application will open. The Seal of Excellence is generated together with the ERL and it should be accessible in the 'Process documents' section, where it can be downloaded.



For more information you may visit the following link: <u>https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/seal-</u> <u>excellence\_en#how</u>

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#### Opportunities:

#### Hungary Government Scholarships for the Academic Year 2022-2023

The Call for Applications for the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship for the academic year 2022/2023 is published.

Students in **master's** and **doctoral** programs can apply for Hungary Government Scholarships. They must first register and upload their documents on https:// apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu/ provided by the Hungary Scholarship Foundation. They should register and apply for scholarships from foreign governments on https:// portal.saorg.ir/ in the Student Affairs Organization.



**Deadline:** January 10, 2022 (There will be no extension of the registration deadline). Read more...

#### Iran–Switzerland Research Partnership Grants 2021

Research Partnership Grants aim to offer support to Iranian and Swiss researchers who are interested in joint research activities. The grants have three main purposes:

#### Fostering new partnerships

Research Partnership Grants are useful at an early stage in developing new partnerships or fleshing out recently established partnerships AND/OR

#### Allowing the existing partnerships to grow and develop

A Research Partnership Grant can offer Iranian and Swiss researchers who have already successfully completed a project with a partner the other country possibility of continuing joint research with the objective of preparing a grant application for a full joint research project (e.g. through the Swiss National Science Foundation, Iran National Science Foundation, EU funding or a national or regional funding body). These grants may also allow for joint teaching or curriculum development to be intensified AND/OR

#### Supporting research talents

Research Partnership Grants may also be used to support the next generation of scientists, i.e. those who have gained a Master's degree but who have not yet completed their PhD and who have no more than six years of professional research experience, in becoming integrated into international collaborations. They help to establish new partnerships through personal contacts, thereby making them more sustainable, and attracting young talent to spend time in an academic environment abroad.

Following the last IUT International announcement, the call for applications is now open until January 15, 2022. Calls are open for activities in all scientific disciplines and research fields. Applicants should, however, be able to demonstrate that their project will be sustainable by gaining access to external funding once the grant period comes to an end. Read more...



**Research Partnership Grants** 

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 welcome.

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