

INFORMATICS

I NEWS

AICTE News

AICTE is in the news for taking recently some significant action and launching new schemes which will go a long way in the history of Technical Education. So much has been done in so little a time which has established that AICTE means business.

It has constituted the National Board of Accreditation (NBA - India) with the objective of identifying those institutions and their specific programmes which meet the minimum norms and standards prescribed by AICTE. The Board will undertake evaluation of all technical institutions and programmes and award accreditation with grades. The details of the objectives Accreditation policies and evaluation and Accreditation procedures are given in NBA handbook Oct. 1994, published by AICTE.

Another Board formed by AICTE is All India Board for Staff Development and continuing education. This Board will have the responsibility of formulating schemes for the initial and in-service training of Teachers including Quality Improvement Programmes leading to M.Tech., Ph.D., Summer/Winter schools for teachers and continuing Education programmes.

Four new schemes have been launched by AICTE for the benefit of

teachers.

- a) Scheme of travel grant for attending international conferences.
- b) Scheme for Financial Assistance to organise symposium / Seminars / Conference / Workshops at Regional, National and International levels in the various fields of engineering and technology.
- c) Scheme of Emeritus Fellow for utilising the services of highly qualified and experienced super-annuated teachers who have been actively engaged in research and teaching.
- d) Scheme of Career Award for young teachers for identifying young talented teachers.

The details of these schemes can be had from Bureau Chief (Career Development AICTE, Indira Gandhi Sports Complex I. P. Estate New Delhi 110002)

BITS-CLRI Tie - up

A memorandum of Understanding in regard to starting of a course called the Master of Vocational Science jointly by the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani and The Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) was signed recently. This course in footwear science and engineering will be conducted by BITS with facilities and faculty available at CLRI. The course will have flexibilities like accumulation

of credits, multiple entry and exit and would enable students to acquire Operators' Certificate, diploma, degree and P.G. qualification in footwear technology in steps.

Audio-vision - New Method in Education

A new audio vision technique, developed by the Yeshwantrao Chavan, Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU) for its newly launched diploma in general electronics programme under distance education; offers students benefits of both audio and visual system with a small investment of Rs.400 to 500 in purchasing a walkman. YCMOU has developed a special companion book to be used with the walkman.

The student listens to an audio cassette which explain a topic, in an expert teachers voice. The student simultaneously looks at the left page of an illustrated companion book called the frame with keywords and brief explanation. On the right hand page there is a provision for questions on the topics, and for his responses and for answers on the next page, which can be checked with his responses.

The innovators Dr. Gaikwad and Dr. Sahasrabuddhe claim that with this device, the students are actively involved in the learning process because of thinking, computing, drawing, calculating and jotting down answers, which is normally absent in distance mode.

Technical Education University for Punjab

Punjab State Government would set up a Technical Education University

in Punjab for producing trained and skilled persons required in very large numbers as a result of investment of Rs.25000/- crores in setting up industrial units during the last two and half years.

Vocationalisation of Education at the first Degree Level

As envisaged in the programme of Action-National Policy on Education 1986 the UGC after much deliberations approved introduction of 35 vocational subject in 190 colleges and 19 Universities during 1994-95. The vocational subjects are in the disciplines of Science, Engineering and Technology, Humanities and Social Science including Commerce. These programmes aim at imparting skills for the degree students, so that at the end of three year course. The students would have acquired specialisation and has more chances of being employed or branching out on the career of self employment.

Hearty Felicitations

We offer our heartiest congratulations to :

Prof. V. C. Kulandai Swamy on his re-election as President ISTE for one more term.



Prof B. B. Chopane

Prof B. B. Chopane Director of Technical Education Maharashtra State on acceptance of his Doctoral thesis in Management by University of Poona and obtaining Ph.D.

II VIEWS

Basic Issues in teacher training programme

Dr. Jayashankar Vice Chancellor of Kakatiya University while presiding over the inaugural function of UGC sponsored refresher course in Pharmacy for inservice teachers at the University College of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Kakatiya University said that any teacher training programme irrespective of its duration centers round three basic issues viz. what to teach, how to teach and what for one teaches. 'What to Teach' relates to the subject in which the teacher would have the necessary expertise, while how to teach relates to the strategies and methodologies of teaching. The third aspect 'What for one teaches' relates to the broader objective of education.

Demand for Specialists

From the campus recruitments at Anna University - Dr. Anand Krishan, Vice Chancellor of Anna University observed that since the new economic policy as introduced in 1991, the job market for technically qualified persons has undergone a major change. Technology students with specialisations linked to products - design, manufacturing process and production, rather than generalisations, like electrical, mechanical and civil engineers, were in greater demand

Academic Institutions - Industries Collaboration

While delivering the 44th Convocation Address of Rourkee University, the Union Minister for Human Resources Development Mr. Arjun Singh

made out a strong case for making higher technical education more need based by carefully transforming its content through some collaborative efforts between academic institutions and industry. Such collaboration would be possible only when both realise a common stake in development and wilfully share the resources at their respective comments.

Technological Colonialisation

While delivering the convocation address of I.I.T. Delhi, Dr. K. R. Narayanan, Vice President of India commented on the tendency in the third world to depend on the science and technology of the developed countries and warned Technological colonialism may taste in the beginning sweeter than the old political colonialism but it could enmesh the developing countries in a more suffocating embrace of dependence. He added "what we call globalisation should not end up in alienation from our own roots and our own problems crying out for solutions and in mere westernisation or blind imitation of the west."

III NEWS FROM ABROAD

Castme Awards

Commonwealth Association of Science Technology and Mathematics Education (Castme) Awards for Science Technology and Mathematics teachers are intended to encourage teaching of the social aspects of Science, Technology and Mathematics with particular reference to developing countries of the commonwealth. The social aspects include the relevance of science, technology and Mathematics curricula to

local needs and conditions and the impact of technology, industry and **agriculture** on the local community. Details of the scheme can be had from "CASTME Award Scheme C/o Christine Bateman Consultancy Group Medlock St. Manchester, M15 4 AA UK.

Teachers and officials working in the primary, secondary and tertiary education in commonwealth countries are eligible for awards.

Standards for Accreditation

The National Policy Board on Higher Education Institution of Accreditation (NPB) USA has recommended a common core of accreditation standards for Colleges and Universities in America with a strong emphasis on student learning outcomes to be followed by regional accrediting bodies. As per new requirements, the institutions should :

- Provide an undergraduate education that ensures competence in oral and written communication scientific and quantitative reasoning. Critical analysis/ logical training and technological literacy.
- Define clearly process for establishing and evaluating all educational programmes conduct evaluation on a regular basis, and integrate the findings into the institution's overall planning and evaluation.

ation.

- Provide evidence that programme reviews lead to the improvement of teaching and learning processes.
- Identify and publish expected learning outcomes for each undergraduate and graduate programme and demonstrate that students completing the programmes have achieved them.
- Document the technical and professional competence of students completing vocational and occupational programmes.

IV FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE / SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS / EVENTS

International Computer Contest

The Annual International Computer Problem Solving Contest (ICPSC) of the Wisconsin University (U.S.A.) organised by Nalini Foundation for symbolic. Logic, Saavitri, Nirmal Baag Pune 411 889 in India will be held on 30 April 1995 at some selected centres. The details can be had from the organisers

SUMMER AND WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMES OF ISTE FOR 1995-96

Sr. No.	Course	Duration	Name and Address of Principal Co-ordinator
I FOR ENGINEERING COLLEGES			
1	Total Quality Management	22.5.95 - 2.6.95	Prof. R. C. Murty : Principal REC Warangal 506004

Sr. No.	Course	Duration	Name and address of Principal co-ordinator
2	Team Engineering & Management	5.6.95 - 18.6.95	Dr. P. Arvindan : Professor PSG College of Technology Coimbatore - 641004
3.	The Industry - Institute Interface, Innovative Approaches	4.12.95 - 10.12.95	Dr. P. K. Chateley : Professor, Dr. B.R.A. Regional Engg. College, Jalandhar - 144 027
4.	Innovations in Teaching Methodology for Higher Order Learning	19.6.95 - 14.7.95	Dr. K. C. Kumar : Professor Centre for Educational Technology IIT, New Delhi - 110016

II FOR POLYTECHNICS

1.	Educational Administration and Institution Management	22.5.95 - 28.5.95	Shri. K. Vijayan : Principal Maharaja's Technological Institute Thrissur - 680020
2.	Quality Circle Application in Educational Institution	15.8.95 - 21.6.95	Selvi K. S. Babal : Principal Dr. Dharmambad Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Taramati, Madras 600113

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Happy and Prosperous
New Year
to all of our
Subscribers, Contributors,
Advertisers
and all well wishers