

Dean's Diary

Creating a motivating workplace

Dean (Faculty) - Prof Kanchana V

KID: 20220101

Greetings from the Dean's Desk.....

It gives me great pleasure to address the whole IITH community in my new role as Dean of Faculty Affairs, having served the Institute for over 12 years in various roles, including the Head of the Physics department. I hope everyone is safe and back to their routines after the pandemic that has set back all of us for nearly two years.

We at IITH have resumed the offline classes, and the students are getting back to restoring the vibrant campus life. Quite a few courses are still running in hybrid mode to ensure flexibility and safety while the students are transitioning back to campus. The charm of dynamic learning with recreational activities and informal and social gatherings with serendipitous encounters is back enriching the campus life and educational experience.

Today IITH has a strength of approximately **264 faculty, 276 non-teaching staff, and nearly 3900 students**. IITH is quite dynamic and successful in offering several online and offline academic programs in niche areas of engineering, science, and technology, attracting high potential candidates. Teaching and research are two sides of a coin for any faculty, and the faculties at IITH are certainly at the forefront bringing several externally funded research projects that have consistently placed IITH in the top ten NIRF-ranked institutes, 8th position in India in QS ranking within the engineering stream and 7th position in ARIIA - 2021. All of these certainly demand efficient administration and support of employees at various offices of IITH, striving hard to cater the best to the faculties.

The recognition that IITH has secured over the past is a testimony to the rigor and hard work that our faculty have put into our programs and its continuous improvement, which certainly deserves appreciation. IITH has initiated Faculty teaching/research excellence awards since 2020. These awards would certainly elevate productivity and enhance the competitive spirit, enabling every faculty to set their goals much higher. Six awards were announced during the Foundation day of IITH, identifying the excellence in two categories, one below 40 years (3 awards) and the other above 40 years (3 awards) together with teaching excellence awards.

IITH is looking forward to maintaining a student-teaching ratio close to 10:1. We follow proactive hiring policies looking out for dynamic young talented minds with dedication and excellence. Every year, we conduct two rounds of recruitment across various departments. To keep pace with the Government's recruitment policy, IITH conducted a special recruitment drive in January 2022 and successfully recruited 22 faculties.

IITH is keen on bringing in the professionalism and latest technology expertise from the industry through strategic recruitment of Professors of Practice in leading areas of research and development. The Institute has always been in the pursuit of engaging distinguished Professors internationally who have a proven record of achievements and have become torchbearers in leading the faculty fraternity to the cutting-edge technologies of tomorrow.

The Office of Faculty Affairs is committed to enhancing faculty development initiatives, ensuring equal opportunity for all irrespective of gender differences, improving our faculty diversity, and building a strong collaborative fraternity at IITH.

We @ IITH have always been very proactive in creating a challenging and vibrant research/teaching atmosphere through Interdisciplinary (ID) programs and activities. Faculties are highly encouraged to carry out cutting-edge research in interdisciplinary domains through a special call for the ID projects hosted and taken forward by the institute's Centre for Interdisciplinary program (CIP). The centre is very successful in bringing faculty across domains on the same board, churning out new ideas, thus acting as a cradle for innovations and new research projects.

IITH faculty are highly encouraged to have joint doctoral students with foreign universities such as Swinburne University and Deakin University. The Dean of Faculty Affairs office is dedicated to promoting and advancing research collaborations while ensuring continued excellence.

I take this opportunity to place on record the excellent team spirit with which the office of the Dean, faculty affairs functions, enabling the smooth and efficient functioning of all processes related to faculty affairs and recruitment.



“Climbing to the top demands strength, whether it is to the top of Mount Everest or to the top of your career.”

- Bharat Ratna Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

As the Dean of Faculty Affairs, I stand beside you, extending my whole-hearted support to all our faculty to be world leaders in teaching, research, mentoring, and humble servants to the scholar community @ IITH and the whole society. **We strive to create a motivating workplace and set IITH as the dream destination for all students, faculties, academicians, and researchers across the globe.** I firmly believe that by joining shoulders together, we can build a great Institute with our eminent faculty, staff, students, and alumni.