Dean's Diary
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Unfolding the capabilities in the young minds

Greetings to all. Hope, you all are doing well. We@IITH are passing through the most difficult time in terms of academic affairs due to current pandemic situations. Semester duration has been reduced to ~3.5 months than usual ~4-month semester. Two semesters are running in parallel. UG 1st Year has started in Nov' 20 along with Sept' 20 semester for all other batches. This pandemic has forced us to have new exposure to online academics. There are several burning issues like laptop availability for students, internet issues in many remote places and other pandemic related pressures on each one of us etc.

The student population has also increased. Currently, we have ~3300+ students. As we have fractal academics (0.5 to 3 credit courses), IITH is naturally having a large number of online courses. In this testing time, IITH has put forward a strong attempt to continue its journey without any compromise in the academic processes and standards. We are soon going to upgrade ourselves to ERP software solutions for better academic as well as institute governance. To help students in this distressful situation, we have enabled 'Bank Loans' for students to buy Laptops (for UGs, IITH will pay the interest).

IITH is proud to say that the 1st Joint IITH-Swinburne PhD student has been graduated under the collaborative program. We have enrolled 14 foreign nationals as students in Sept' 20, compared to 1 in 2019. We are hopeful that this number will increase in future. Even in this pandemic time, the academics of IITH has made steady progress. Nearly 80+ scholars are expected to complete their PhD. Viva-voce in between 15th March 2020 to 31st Dec 2020. In terms of academic collaborations, our Senate has approved 2 MOUs; one with IIT Madras & the other with Hyderabad Central University. While the first 10 years gave us a rock-solid foundation, now it is the time to think for long term visions. Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) has started functioning very recently to establish long term policies for the academic affairs @IITH.

To give more focus on UG/PG courses and curriculums, Senate UG & PG Committees have started working in the last few months. For a smoother online experience, we have explored several online platforms to standardize online academics. New methodologies like flip teaching are already being adopted to conduct the courses with mid to large size classes with the help of our Computer Center. IITH is young and has dreams to place itself very high in the academic galaxy. We are student-centric and faculty-driven. The objective is to unfold the capabilities in the young minds to do wonders for the greater welfare of the society at large.

Dean (Academic)
Prof. Saptarshi Majumdar