

## **April Newsletter**

1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the following academic programs for 2020 have been postponed/cancelled until further notice:

- IIT Kharagpur – University of Delaware Summer Scholar Exchange Civil and Environmental Engineering Summer Internship 2020
- Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG) Internship
- Australian National University Future Research Talent (ANU-FRT) Program
- Admission to Joint Doctoral Program with University of Alberta is put on hold temporarily.

2. **Reviewing and placement of Draft MoUs for Committee meeting :**

The MoU committee has decided in its most recent meeting that in order to allow for a regular convening of the MoU committee and a timely deliberation of pending MoUs, the following structure will be adhered to:

- MoU meeting will be convened every month in the last Thursday of the month.
- All MoUs received by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month will be considered for the meeting.
- Faculty members, who plan to propose a new MoU that has not been considered by the MoU committee is requested to fill up the following form available at: <https://international.iitkgp.ac.in/static/website/Internal%20Documents/mou%20application%20form%2020200325.pdf> and submit it to [ir-office@adm.iitkgp.ac.in](mailto:ir-office@adm.iitkgp.ac.in) with Subject Line as: **NEW MoU with (Name of Institution)**
- After the first level of screening of the draft MoUs and upon clearance, the drafts will be shared with committee members for their review and comments.
- No requests for approval through email circulation will be entertained unless the request comes from the Director or Deputy Director.
- MoU processing will henceforth be handled centrally by the Deans' Secretariat.

3. **Dual Doctoral Program (DDP) with University of Wollongong, Australia:**

IIT Kharagpur is offering joint programs with University of Wollongong, Australia. The institutions are promoting joint research projects and joint courses of study with two-way mobility of students who will get a Dual Doctoral Degree at the end of their dissertation work. Under the DDP, doctoral students of both the Institutes can pursue a doctoral degree under joint supervision by faculty members from both the Institutes. If admitted to DDP, the student will be required to stay for at least one year at the Host Institute/University while doing research under joint supervision. Student will receive support for international travel and local expenses.

If you wish to supervise DDP students, please encourage your graduating UG/PG students and first year PhD students to consider this opportunity. Please also get in touch with your collaborator at University of Wollongong and define an appropriate research proposal.

4. **Dual Doctoral Program (DDP) with Curtin University, Australia:**

The program is open to first year doctoral students of the Home Institution. The student needs to spend at least 1 year in the partner Institution doing research under joint supervision. The thesis is evaluated by each Institute according to its own rules and the joint nature of the work is acknowledged in the two-degree certificates. Funding on both sides is available.

If you wish to supervise DDP students, please encourage your graduating UG/PG students and first year PhD students to consider this opportunity. Please also get in touch with your collaborator at Curtin University and define an appropriate research proposal. Additional information may be sought from Prof. Bhargab Moitra, [bhargab@civil.iitkgp.ac.in](mailto:bhargab@civil.iitkgp.ac.in) faculty coordinator of Curtin DDP.

## 5. VIPRA at University of West Florida (UWF), USA

Viral Infection Propagation Through Air-Travel, VIPRA is a multi-university research project on the spread of diseases through air travel, funded by the National Science Foundation. This position will provide a training opportunity for students who are interested in a PhD in the future. Students can expect to acquire skills in parallel programming, machine learning, and software engineering in a public health context.

**Start Date:** Fall 2020 semester.

### **Eligibility:**

Applicants must meet all the admission requirements for the Master's programme in Computer Science at UWF and should have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a GRE quantitative score over 160. Applicants should have strong programming skills in C/C++ in a Unix environment and be proficient in data structures and algorithms.

For further information about semester deadlines, visit:

<https://www.cs.fsu.edu/vipra>

<https://uwf.edu/hmcse/departments/computer-science/graduate-programs/ms-computer-science>

## 6. ASEAN-India Collaborative R&D Scheme

This scheme has been initiated in order to support collaborative Research & Development (R&D) and to facilitate sharing of advance research facilities among researchers of ASEAN MS and India.

Priority research areas include:

- Bio-medical devices
- Agriculture and Food Science & Technology (related to climate change adaptation technologies)
- ICT and Cyber Physical systems
- Collaboration / partnership projects with ASEAN Centres and Networks

**Project duration:** Up to 24 months

**Eligibility:** Scientists with an appointment as a regular faculty member at any eligible Indian/ASEAN MS institution can apply as Principal Investigator (PI). The maximum age of each project participant must NOT exceed 60 years as on date of submission of the project. The appointment of the PI must last until the end of the project. Additionally, the project may include a junior faculty/ scientist and/or a PhD student / post-doc. The total number of participants on each side should not exceed two.

**Application Deadline:** Applications must be prepared jointly by the Indian and ASEAN MS partner scientists and must be submitted only online between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> September.

If you can identify prospective ASEAN collaborators, we strongly encourage you to get in touch with them, and formulate a research project.

For more information, visit: <https://aistic.gov.in/ASEAN/aistdfCollaborative>

## 7. Medical Research Council (MRC) Applied Global Health Research Board, UK

The Applied Global Health Research Board supports research that will be of direct and primary benefit to the health of vulnerable populations living in low and middle income countries (LMICs). This includes implementation research, scale-up activities, health services research, health economics, health policy research and other areas.

Examples of areas in which applied research may be conducted include the following health topics and focus areas:

Maternal and neonatal health; Child health and early childhood development; Adolescent health; Healthy ageing; Sexual and reproductive health; Infectious diseases, including neglected tropical diseases; Non-communicable diseases, including mental health; Multimorbidity; Nutrition and food security; Snakebite; Intentional and unintentional injury; Urban health, including indoor/outdoor air pollution, road traffic accidents, and healthy housing; Planetary health; Informal settlements, conflict zones, and displaced populations;

Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention; Detection and diagnostics; mHealth; Treatment, including surgery; Pain management and palliative care.

**Eligibility:** Applications **are particularly encouraged from LMIC PIs**, as well as PIs based in the UK working in equitable partnerships with LMIC investigators.

**Closing date: 21 Apr 2020 16:00 GMT+1**

Further details can be found at: <https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/browse/mrc-applied-global-health-research/applied-global-health-research-board/>

#### **8. Longitude Prize, UK:**

The **Longitude Prize** is a £10m prize fund, with an £8m payout, that will reward a team of researchers who develop a point-of-care diagnostic test that will conserve antibiotics for future generations and revolutionize the delivery of global healthcare. The test must be accurate, rapid, affordable and easy to use anywhere in the world. The Longitude Prize is supported by Innovate UK and is managed by the Challenge Prize Centre at Nesta, an innovation foundation.

**Eligibility:** Anyone of any age and any organisation may enter the competition as long as they meet the Eligibility Criteria below:

- The team is able to demonstrate that in winning the Longitude Prize it would deliver direct economic growth or benefit or social benefit in the UK. To demonstrate such benefit the team must:
- Include a member who has a presence in the United Kingdom, meaning an office in the UK, affiliation with a UK Company or partnership with a UK organisation or institution, and meet one of the following requirements:
  - a. carry out manufacturing and/or design of the winning solution in the UK, or
  - b. lab test or showcase the winning solutions in the UK, or
  - c. use some other means agreed in writing with Nesta and Innovate UK before participating in the Longitude Prize

The application can be made at any time through the Longitude Prize website. The entries are judged every four months until September 2022 or until a winner is chosen.

**The closing date** for the next round for entry into the LF is: **31 May 2020**

**For additional details, please visit:** <https://longitudeprize.org/>

#### **9. Hackathon for Applicable Solutions to Mitigate Air Pollution, India:**

The Air Quality Hackathon will bring together (20) teams, (3) participants per team, to brainstorm for two days and find practical solutions for improving air quality. The solutions will be shared and implemented to the extent possible during a follow-on campaign with school communities and NGO partners. Results of the implementation phase will be shared with government and civil society partners. A survey to measure the impact of the intervention program will be conducted after the project is over. The best results pre- and post-intervention will be documented and recognized in a final culminating event.

**Deadline for application:** 15th May 2020

**Duration:** 2 days (14th June and 15th June 2020)

**Eligibility:** All IITKGP students

**Location:** U.S. consulate in Kolkata

**Weblink:** [https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325477&fbclid=IwAR2MBYIaRU8cVGOtFFS-oqdeZJ-VV4BpoeR4r2vh\\_7BLB761wdHweRYg9Sg](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325477&fbclid=IwAR2MBYIaRU8cVGOtFFS-oqdeZJ-VV4BpoeR4r2vh_7BLB761wdHweRYg9Sg)

## **10. Global Links Impact Investment Forum, India**

This funding opportunity seeks to build the “Global Links Impact Investment Forum,” headquartered in Kolkata, starting with a committee of academics, alumni, and business entities that will be self-sustainable in the future. The forum will commence with an inaugural event followed by a week-long training session conducted by experts from the United States and India on organizational design for an independent business-networking entity. The participants will be coached to administer the forum and build capacity for women entrepreneurs. The forum will develop a calendar of events for the next one year and seek membership from women entrepreneurs, business faculty members, and business students. The forum will also invite academics to work with members to implement new trends in business research and development.

This project will create a forum for women entrepreneurs and business students that will serve as a networking tool and launch-pad to showcase new business models to policymakers and influencers such as local and central government leaders, senior business executives, academics, and media.

**Deadline for application:** 15th May 2020

**Eligibility:** Female students at IITKGP

**Location:** U.S. consulate in Kolkata

**Weblink:** [https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325455&fbclid=IwARoAMrY\\_cFIf4dqUUF8Ws3rVGssfkCQteouzk34-sCicjtCxXVWIHQulHRg](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325455&fbclid=IwARoAMrY_cFIf4dqUUF8Ws3rVGssfkCQteouzk34-sCicjtCxXVWIHQulHRg)