

MELBOURNE INDIA POSTGRADUATE ACADEMY (MIPA)

Dual Doctoral Program between IIT Kharagpur and University of Melbourne

Annexure 1 to the MoU

Glossary:

- The terms Enrolment, Commencement, Candidature have been used inter-changeably
 - Advisory Panel, Dissertation Advisory committee (DAC), Doctoral Scrutiny Committee (DSC) have been used interchangeably
 - 'Scholarship' and 'Stipend' have been used interchangeably.
 - IIT Kharagpur Candidates: students whose Home institution is IIT Kharagpur
 - UoM Candidates: students whose Home institution is University of Melbourne
 - Participating Institution/IIT means IIT Kharagpur or IIT Kanpur or IIT Madras
 - IITKgp means IIT Kharagpur
 - DDP means Dual Doctoral Program between IIT Kharagpur and University of Melbourne
1. MIPA is a Melbourne India Postgraduate Academy developed by a collaboration between the University of Melbourne (UoM) and IIT Kanpur/ IIT Madras/ IIT Kharagpur to deliver a Joint Doctoral Degree Program, wherein students will receive one PhD degree jointly awarded by UoM and one of the three IITs. Each testamur will acknowledge the joint nature of the degree and the names of the relevant partner institutions.
 2. The UoM-IIT Kanpur and UoM-IIT Madras program is referred to as JDP (Joint Degree Program).
 3. The UoM-IIT Kharagpur program is referred to as DDP (Dual Doctoral Program).
 4. MIPA will provide students with an exclusive opportunity to work in both continents during their candidature and earn a joint degree accredited both in India and Australia.
 5. Students enrolled in MIPA will work on a project jointly developed by both supervisors and mentored by a joint Advisory Committee consisting of academics from UoM and one of the IITs.
 6. Students interested in this joint PhD (DDP) program may apply through IIT Kanpur, IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur or the UoM. This institute will serve as home institution for the student throughout the candidature.

The maximum duration of PhD will be 8 years for students whose Home Institution is IIT Kharagpur (including the coursework year). However students will only be able to submit for examination at UoM within 4 years of commencing at UoM or if the relevant dean approves late submission if delays are due to:

- (a) compelling and serious research-related reasons beyond the candidates' control, or
 - (b) compelling or unexpected, personal or medical reasons which have arisen during the candidature period. However the funding from UoM will be available within 4 years of commencing at UoM.
7. The maximum duration of PhD will be 4 years for students whose Home Institution is UoM, with 3.5 years of scholarship stipend.

UoM-IIT Kharagpur, DDP (Dual Doctoral Program).

A. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND HOW TO APPLY:

A1. For all Candidates:

1. Students must satisfy the entry requirements for PhD at both IIT Kharagpur and the University of Melbourne.
2. Students need to apply independently to each institution. First, they must get admitted and enrolled at the Home Institution and then apply for DDP at the Home and Partner Institutions within the first year of enrolment (candidature) at Home Institution. Application can be made anytime during the year.
3. The Partner Institution will consider the application only for those students who have been approved by the Home Institution for DDP. An additional DDP form will need to be completed as part of this process. This form will outline the agreed specific arrangements for each student's Dual PhD (e.g. dates of location at each institution, names of supervisors, coursework, scholarship arrangements etc.).
4. Students are required to attach (a) a letter of support from the appropriate Dean (International Relations/ Research Training) of the Home Institution, and (b) a letter of support from the Home Institution supervisor(s) and the Partner Institute supervisor(s) with their application to the Partner Institution.

A2. For IIT Kharagpur Candidates:

5. The student must be admitted into the PhD programme at IIT Kharagpur.
6. The student must have a GPA of 8.5/10 or above from a Bachelor's or Master's degree conducted at one of the participating institutions: IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur or IIT Madras. Those students with GPA less than 8.5/10 in Bachelor's or Master's degree conducted at one of the participating institutions, must secure a minimum GPA of 8.5 in the first year of their PhD program in order to be eligible..
7. Students who do not have Bachelor's/Master's degree from a participating Institution, must secure a minimum GPA of 8.5 in the first year of their PhD program in order to be eligible.

A3. For UoM Candidates:

8. The student must be admitted as a PhD student at UoM.
9. The students must have a GPA of 8.5/10 or above from their Bachelor's or Master's degree.

B. SELECTION PROCESS:

B1. For IIT Kharagpur Candidates:

1. The student will be enrolled in a PhD program at IIT Kharagpur with an appropriate scholarship from IIT Kgp.
2. The student will be required to successfully complete the required coursework and comprehensive examination within 12 months of enrolment in PhD at IIT Kharagpur.
3. If successful, the student will receive a PhD offer from UoM under DDP. For students who (a) obtained their Bachelor's and Master's degree from an institution other than one of the participating IITs, or (b) obtained their Bachelor's or Master's or both degrees from one of the participating IITs but had GPA less than 8.5 in all such degrees, the offer will be conditional on achieving a minimum GPA 8.5 in the coursework in their first year of PhD at IIT Kharagpur.

B2. For UoM Candidates:

4. The student will receive PhD candidature and stipend + fee remission offers from UoM.

5. The student will be required to successfully complete the required coursework and deliver the confirmation seminar within 12 months of commencement (enrolment) of PhD at UoM.
6. If successful, the student will receive DDP offer from IIT Kharagpur.

C. CANDIDATURE AND SCHOLARSHIP:

C1. For all candidates:

1. On enrolment for PhD at Home Institution, an Advisory Panel / DSC will be formed as per rules of the Home Institution. Upon successful enrolment in DDP, supervisor(s) and two more Academics from the Partner Institution will be inducted into the Advisory Panel/DAC. The Panel will meet at least twice in a year (online mode) to assess the student's progress.
2. Students will be required to furnish six-monthly progress reports to both institutions via the Advisory Panel. Students will receive a local stipend scholarship from the institution at which they are physically located during their candidature. The Home Institution may choose to suspend stipend during the absence.
3. Travel support if any will be awarded according to rules of the Home Institution. Tuition and other fees payable during stay at the Partner Institution will be waived by the Partner Institution.

C2. For IIT Kharagpur Candidates:

4. The student will follow the rules of IIT Kharagpur regarding the coursework. There will be no additional coursework requirement at UoM.
5. The student will complete the comprehensive examination within 12 months of enrolment into PhD program of IIT Kharagpur.
6. The student will spend 12-24 months at UoM depending on the project requirements as determined by the Advisory Committee in consultation with the supervisors from each institution. The maximum duration of UoM stipend for IIT Kharagpur candidates will be 2 years.
7. The student will need to deliver a confirmation seminar within 12 months of commencing at UoM. Registration seminar of IIT Kharagpur will be considered equivalent to confirmation seminar at UoM provided concerned faculty of UoM participate through video conferencing. Internal progress reports will be generated to assess student's standing.
8. The enrolment (commencement) date at UoM will be the date when the student enrolls at UoM after accepting the offer of DDP.
9. Visits to UoM will take place with due approval from IIT Kharagpur. When not resident at UoM, the student will be on approved Study Away from UoM.

C3. For UoM Candidates:

10. The student will follow the rules of UoM regarding any coursework. There will be no additional coursework requirement at IIT Kharagpur.
11. The student will complete a confirmation seminar within 12 months of commencing at UoM.
12. The student will spend 12-24 months at IIT Kharagpur depending on the project requirements as determined in consultation with the supervisors from each institution. The maximum duration of IIT Kharagpur scholarship for UoM candidates will be 2 years.
13. The student will need to deliver a registration seminar within 12 months of enrolment at IIT Kharagpur. If the confirmation seminar at UoM is held after the student enrolls at IIT Kharagpur under DDP, and is attended by concerned IIT Kharagpur faculty members by video conferencing, it will be considered equivalent to the registration seminar at IITKgp. Otherwise, the student will need to deliver a registration seminar during his/her stay at IIT Kharagpur. Internal progress reports will be generated to assess student's standing.
14. The enrolment (commencement) date at IIT Kharagpur will be the date when the student enrolls at IIT Kharagpur after accepting the offer of DDP.
15. When not resident at UoM and visiting IIT Kharagpur, the student will be on approved Study Away.

D. THESIS SUBMISSION AND EXAMINATION:

D1. For All Candidates:

1. The student must meet the examination requirements of both institutions to be awarded the DDP, including any Oral Examination requirements.
2. The student will submit identical copies of the thesis written in English to both institutions.
3. The thesis will be examined by at least two external examiners.
4. Thesis examiners must:
 - i. be independent of both institutions
 - ii. be of good international standing in the research topic of the thesis
 - iii. be qualified to at least PhD level or have equivalent research experience
 - iv. have previous experience as a supervisor or examiner of a PhD
 - v. be from different institutions.
5. A person is ineligible to serve as an examiner if they:
 - i. have had a formal association with either institution within the past five years and/or during the examination, including employment at the institution in teaching and/or research as either a full-time, part-time or sessional staff member, or in an honorary capacity
 - ii. are a supervisor or advisory committee member of the candidate under examination
 - iii. have had direct involvement with the thesis through reading drafts or discussing the research
 - iv. have directly collaborated in work with the student and/or with the student's supervisors in the last 5 years
 - v. have a real or perceived conflict of interest with the student, the supervisors or the institutions of a personal, professional or commercial nature
6. The thesis and relevant forms will be sent to the examiners by each partner institution. The examiners will return two sets of forms; one to each institution. Each institution will pay the examiners in line with their rules and regulations.
7. The student will resubmit the revised thesis, if necessary, on the basis of examiners comments in consultation with both the supervisors and with the combined approval of the Chair of Examiners at both institutions.
8. In case of grossly conflicting recommendation by the two external examiners, the relevant Deans of the two Institutions will discuss on the future course of action which may include sending it to a third jointly appointed external examiner.
9. If successful, the student will receive two separate degree certificates each of which will acknowledge the joint nature of the degree and will include the name of the partner institution.

D2. For IIT Kharagpur Candidates:

10. Student must give a 'Synopsis Seminar' when the thesis is complete. This will be considered equivalent to the 'Completion Seminar' of UoM. Concerned faculty from the Partner Institution will participate by video conferencing. If accepted by DSC, the thesis will be sent out for review by external examiners.
11. The thesis examination will be initiated by IIT Kharagpur and the initial contact and invitations to examiners will be sent by IIT Kharagpur.
12. The student will undergo an oral examination in line with IIT Kharagpur requirements. Relevant faculty from the Partner Institution will participate by video conferencing.

D3. For UoM Candidates:

13. The student must give a 'Completion Seminar', when the thesis is complete. This will be considered equivalent to the 'Synopsis Seminar' of IITKgp. Relevant faculty from the Partner Institution will participate by video conferencing. If accepted by DAC, the thesis will be sent out for review by external examiners.
14. The thesis examination will be initiated by UoM and the initial contact and invitations to examiners will be sent by UoM.
15. The student will undergo an oral examination in line with IIT Kharagpur requirements. This is to ensure that the student meets the usual requirements of both institutions to be awarded a Joint PhD. Relevant faculty from the Partner Institution will participate by video conferencing.