



IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar Updates

G. B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
Pantnagar 263145, Uttarakhand

No. 6
March 2020

Message of IDP Leader, GBPUAT, Pantnagar

Creating Interface to Learn from Intellectuals Around the World

The Indian culture of education has always emphasized on sharing of knowledge and wisdom across the lands in order to generate plurality of thoughts and insight which leads the humanity towards excellence. The ancient universities have always been inviting scholars from different realms of research and learning centres for nurturing their students with novelty and acumen. This tenet of learning has generated strong impetus in the world and the institutions and scholars are focusing towards inter-institutional alignments and multidisciplinary approaches. A recent visit to University of Illinois, USA along with my colleagues from IDP team, helped us connect with academicians, scientists, practitioners from various disciplines and various parts of the world. The discussions with each of them regarding prospects of international exchange programmes with Pantnagar students and faculty members were indeed fruitful. Furthermore, this visit was a chance to connect with alumni of Pantnagar established in USA. Through alumni interactions, it was mutually decided that an alumni network node would be established in USA which would be supporting all students and faculty members who will be coming to USA for any academic exchange programme or those who wish to seek research collaborations. Moreover, looking into the trust of agrarian community, hilly and desert area residents, marginalized segments, forest dwellers, and many others; Pantnagar University needs to advance towards approaches that have worked out well in the global context and merge the thrust of researches and technological innovations with the best possible and eligible solutions that are relevant according to our local needs so that pertinent solutions can be devised for enhancing the quality of life.




(Tej Partap)

A New Era of Academic Collaboration Begins with University of Illinois through IDP Efforts

The IDP Pantnagar Team Including Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap Visited University of Illinois, USA

The IDP team led by Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap visited University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign, USA for revitalising six decades old relationship. It is to mention that the University of Illinois had helped Pantnagar to evolve as the first Land Grant University of India in 1960 and a team of Professors from Illinois worked at Pantnagar to support the structure and establishment for more than a decade. Many faculty members and students of Pantnagar were trained at Illinois those days to emerge as brilliant researchers and academicians.



The old ties with Illinois emulate the history of evolution of agricultural university setup of India under Land Grant Pattern to pave the way towards Green Revolution. The recent short visit was a testimony of strong bonds between Pantnagar and Illinois when a marathon series of meetings, interactions and sessions were hosted by Illinois fraternity for Pantnagar team. The Pantnagar team led by Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap, included Dr.

S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Co-PI, IDP-NAHEP Dr. A.S. Nain, and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic). It was University of Illinois Chancellor, Dr. Robert Jones, deans, directors, faculty members, students, alumni, emeritus professors and administrative members who interacted with the Pantnagar team to look into the possible opportunities of collaboration. The complete schedule of meetings is provided herewith:

The Intensive Schedule During University of Illinois Visit

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Time	Meeting // Session
9:00-9:45 am	Meeting with Dr. Alex Winter-Nelson, Associate Dean of International Programs, College of ACES
10:00 am	Tour of Enterprise Works
11:00 am	Meeting with Dr. Prasanta Kalita, Professor, Soil and Water Resources Engineering; Presidential Fellow, University of Illinois System
1:30-2:15 pm	Meeting with Dr. Reitumetse Mabokela, Vice Provost for International Affairs and Global Strategies
2:30-3:30 pm	Meeting with Dr. Robert Jones, Chancellor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
4:00 pm	Meeting with Dr. Hadi Esfahani, Director and Dr. Angela Williams, Associate Director, Center for Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Time	Meeting // Session
9:00 am	Introduction to ACES Office of International Programs (OIP) by Dr. Alex Winter-Nelson, Associate Dean, and Ms. Suzana Palaska, Associate Director
10:30 am	Meeting with ACES students from India and Region: Paavani Sachdeva, Agriculture and Consumer Economics, Daljeet Dhaliwal, Crop Science, Rama Paudel, Crop Science
11:10 am	Meeting with Dr. Kimberlee Kidwell, Dean and Dr. German Bollero, Associate Dean for Research (ACES)
Noon	Presentation on GB Pant and partnership history with University of Illinois by ACES Department Heads and representatives from College of Veterinary Medicine alongwith Dr. Anna Ball, Associate Dean of Academic Programs, Director of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications (ALEC); Dr. Peter Constable, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine; Dr. Adam Davis, Crop Sciences; Dr. Elvira de Mejia, Division of Nutritional Sciences; Dr. Nicki Engeseth, Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN); Dr. Sean Fox, Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE); Dr. Ronaldo Maghirang, Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE); Dr. Bob Schooley, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES); Dr. Deoki Tripathy, Professor Emeritus, College of Veterinary Medicine
2:45 pm	Tour of Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB) with Ms. Courtney Fenlon, Senior Manager, Outreach Activities
3:30 pm	Meeting with Dr. Anna Ball, Associate Dean of Academic Programs
4:00 pm	Meeting with Dr. Jeffrey Matthews, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs (NRES); Dr. Nathan Schroeder, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs (Crop Sciences); and Mr. DK Lee, Animal Sci Person
4:30 pm	Meeting with College of ACES Graduate Program Coordinators: Ms. Dawn Bohn, Food Science and Human Nutrition Dr. V. Chunoo, Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications Dr. Paul Davidson, Agricultural and Biological Engineering Dr. Madhu Khanna, Agricultural and Consumer Economics Ms. Kathryn Mosiman, Agricultural and Consumer Economics

Thursday, January 30, 2020

Time	Meeting // Session
9:00 am	Meeting with Dr. Robert Easter, President Emeritus, University of Illinois; Dr. Paul Hixson, Professor Emeritus, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
10:00 am	Meeting with Dr. Robert Hauser, Dean Emeritus, ACES
11:00 am	IBIP Class, GBPUAT delegation presents on higher education in India with Dr. Robert Hauser, Dean Emeritus (ACES)
1:30 pm	Tour of Integrated Bioprocessing Research Laboratory (IBRL) with Mr. Brian Jacobson, Assistant Director
3:00 pm	Meeting with Dr. Deoki Tripathy, Professor Emeritus, College of Veterinary Medicine
4:00 pm	Presentation on Himalayan Agriculture by VC Dr. Tej Partap

Pantnagar Alumni Network Node to be Created in USA

Alumni Meet Held in Chicago in Presence of VC Dr. Tej Partap

During the recent visit of IDP team along with Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap to University of Illinois, USA, an alumni get together was also organized. Pantnagar alumni residing in various parts of USA, gathered in the 'Windy City' Chicago on February 1, 2020. It was a rare occasion when alumni from batches of 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, and 2010s came together to take forward the cause of Pantnagar University by reviving and rejuvenating alumni networks across USA, while the Pantnagar team was represented by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Co-PI, IDP-NAHEP Dr. A.S. Nain, and Dr. S.K. Guru, Nodal Officer (Academic). It is a matter of pride that Pantnagar alumni are a part of various leading agricultural universities of the world, many of which are in USA. Also, many other alumni are a part of seminal research organizations and many are heading illustrious business organizations as well. Through this interactive, insightful, and illuminating meet, several ideas emerged to strengthen the alumni network, and henceforth it was decided to form an Alumni Network Node in USA. This node would be the central point to connect with Pantnagar alumni in USA, and it would coordinate and guide current Pantnagar students who would be coming or aspire to join US universities for higher education or international exchange programmes. Also, through this node students may seek opportunities for research collaborations, industry internships, or any other suitable learning options. Overall, this short alumni meet was significant and worthwhile, and it was made

so by the gracious presence of Dr. Rameshwar S. Kanwar from Iowa State University, Ms. Akanksha Melkani from Michigan State University, Mr. Vikas Mishra from Texas A&M University, Ms. Jaishree Sharma and Ms. Ipshita Upadhyay from University of Illinois, Dr. Rajeev Agrawal (Former Professor, North Carolina A&T State University and currently working as Computer Scientist in Information Technology Laboratory at Engineer Research and Development Center under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), Dr. Ashwini Singh (Principal Engineer, ANSYS, Illinois), Dr. Arun Goyal (President and CEO, Indo-US Foundation for Research, Education, and Environment, Illinois), Dr. Raghu Singh (prominent Environmental Consultant and currently leading OM Enterprises at Wisconsin), Mr. Vijay Ratnam (IT Strategy, Portfolio & Resource Manager at General Motors, Michigan), Mr. Nitin Singh (Scientist, Microsoft Research Labs, Texas), and Ms. Geetika Mamtani from Illinois. Many alumni joined the gathering along with their families and indeed it was a rejoicing occasion for all.



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The visit concluded with a series of significant collaborations between the two universities. **The international student exchange programme, faculty exchange programme and leadership training programme for deans and directors has been finalized.** All three programmes will provide an opportunity to Pantnagar students and faculty members to visit the University of Illinois and strengthen their academic experiences.



Workshop on Futuristic Leadership and Entrepreneurship Skills Organized Under IDP Pantnagar

Vision 2020 was conceptualized by former President of India Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, yet with the onset of year 2020 we are still far behind that vision. However, for India to emerge in accordance with that great vision wherein no one sleeps hungry, no individual is illiterate, and livelihood is no more a concern, rather the quest of excellence is the spirit of living; immense work needs to be done. The youth of the country have an instrumental role to play in order to fulfil this dream. To guide and train the youth of the country in this context, a workshop was organized by the academic team of IDP Pantnagar on February 21, 2020. The workshop aimed to intrigue and aware the young students about futuristic leadership and entrepreneurship skills, and was led by Mr. Raj Singh, a leading entrepreneur in the area of IT manufacturing industry, Mr. Ramanuj Mishra, Founder and Director, Avid Education, and Mr. Pranav Kumar, Senior Manager, Tata Steel. Both Mr. Ramanuj Mishra and Mr. Pranav Kumar are illustrious alumni of Pantnagar University and have been incessantly contributing towards the growth of their alma mater.

The workshop witnessed participation of almost 400 University students from different colleges and degree programmes. An interactive, personal assessment based process was followed in the workshop. Initially, the participants were introduced with the concept of business and entrepreneurship. Thereafter, with the help of examples, they were made to understand the significance of assuming leadership role for

initiating any entrepreneurial venture. Series of questions raised by the participants pertaining to entrepreneurial leadership skills were then taken by the experts. A personal assessment test called the Loco Inventory was also filled by the participants to assess their extent of intrinsic and extrinsic locus of control, which is an important parameter to understand one's leadership skills. Henceforth, the role of entrepreneurship with respect to the economic ecosystem of the country as well as with respect to livelihood and career options was also discussed. Overall, the workshop intrigued the participants about their potential role in contributing towards the national cause through various innovative ventures in the area of education, health, agriculture, technology, etc.

The workshop was well received by the participants. Towards the closure of the workshop, all participants were connected through a social media platform called Telegram. A common group was created wherein all participants could further discuss their entrepreneurial ideas and related plans. This platform in due course could also emerge as an important networking medium and action platform for strong ideas to materialize. All three experts of the workshop were felicitated and PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar applauded their efforts and told all the participants, that as students of agricultural universities they must strive to make agriculture as a lucrative career option and should make efforts in conceptualizing and generating innovative agriculture based entrepreneurial ventures.



Padma Shri Recipient Shri Gobardhan Panika Invited for Guest Lecture

The Kotpad Weaving Artist Inspires Students to Struggle for Struggles in Life

A guest lecture by the Academic team of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar was organized on February 21, 2020 wherein Padma Shri recipient Shri Gobardhan Panika was invited. Born in a small village called Kotpad, he is an Indian master weaver of Kotpad handloom, a traditional tribal craft. He reflected on his personal story of struggle, and advised all students that struggle is an integral part of one's life. He shared that he was only 12 years old when he left school and took up the family business of weaving. Soon with his hard work and dedication, he became a master craftsman and went on to win several awards. He received National Award 2004 from the former President of India, late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for his contribution in preserving, promoting and enriching the traditional and cultural heritage of the country through the unique art forms of crafting and

weaving. He was later conferred with the Padma Shri award by the Government of India in 2018. He reiterated the importance of hard work and difficulties in achieving success, and asked all students to search for one thing which would provide meaning and purpose to their life, and then they should dedicate themselves for it. He further exemplified how he has been working immensely for exploring the possible solutions for revival of Kotpad weaving and dyeing for promoting craft and weaving skills across the globe. The students then asked him questions about what inspired him to continue amidst varied obstacles, the technicalities of Kotpad weaving, and the significance and possibility of sustaining traditional weaving art. His presence was inspiring and his contribution and dedication was admired by the entire Pantnagar fraternity.



Press Conference Led by Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tej Partap Held at IDP Building

Achievements and Future Prospects of IDP Pantnagar Discussed

A press conference was held on February 13, 2020 at the IDP building premises which was led by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. Tej Partap. The entire IDP team including PI, IDP-NAHEP, Dr. S.K. Kashyap, Co-PI, IDP-NAHEP, Dr. A.S. Nain, Nodal Officer (Academic), Dr. S.K. Guru, and Coordinators of different components were present. The press conference intended to highlight the significant MoU between GBPUAT, Pantnagar and University of Illinois, USA in particular, and other achievements of IDP-NAHEP in general. The MoU will open up new paths for international research collaborations, academic internships, and leadership trainings.

Also, an alumni network node would be established in order to connect with Pantnagar alumni in University of Illinois, USA for further connect and networking. The other substantial changes that have occurred as result of various initiatives of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar were also discussed. These included the renovation of 30 undergraduate classrooms to be converted into digital classrooms, establishment of virtual classroom, development of artificial intelligence, robotics, and climate smart agriculture labs, initiation of foreign language evening classes and several other landmark outcomes.

Bicycle Design Contest Organized by Innovation and Incubation Centre of IDP Pantnagar

Bicycle is the most used mode of travel by Pantnagar students. Owing to its eco-friendly and health-friendly status, bicycle should be further promoted to emerge as a mode of travel for all. In the same context, the Innovation and Incubation Centre of IDP-NAHEP organized a contest called, Reinventing the Bicycle Design in order to have some interesting bicycle designs such that the usability and comfort level of bicycles enhances. The contest was held on February 15, 2020 and six teams from College of Technology were invited for the final presentations. The jury members of the contest were Mr. Mukul Jain, Plant Head, Minda Batteries, SIDCUL, Pantnagar; Mr. Vijay Pratap Singh Rawat, Founder Tryton House Motorcycles, Dehradun; and Dr. A. K. Upadhyay, Coordinator, Innovation and Incubation Centre. The jury members appreciated the unique design features proposed by the participants and gave suggestions with which the designs could be improved for better performance and increased likelihood of getting the design

commercialized. The design proposed by the team of Mr. Samyak Krishna and Mr. Suyash Srivastava was declared as the winner. Their design included features of convertible quad-cycle with solar panel and different retractable modes to serve different purposes in small scale farming with a display showing distance travelled, calories burnt, battery status and GPS location. The first runner-up of the contest was Mr. Prince Raj, who is a final year student of industrial and production engineering, and he proposed the idea of highspeed bicycle with speed controller and advance safety features. The team of Mr. Pradeep and Paras Kohli emerged as the second runner-up, and they suggested a model of electric bicycle with solar powered, foldable and lightweight features. The efforts and initiatives of all the participants were praised by Dr. S.K. Kashyap, PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar. He further encouraged students to keep participating and exploring new ideas, as the IDP-NAHEP platform aims to support an ecosystem of innovation and invention.



Team of Progressive Farmers Working with NABARD Visited IDP Building

A three days introductory and technical capacity augmentation visit of progressive farmers of Kaithal District was held in Pantnagar University. The visit was coordinated and led by regional NABARD office. This team of 25 farmers visited the IDP building on February 14, 2020, and it also included Mr. Mohinder Singh who won the ICAR award for the most innovative farmer of the year in 2011. They took a tour of the entire building and

were briefed about the various novel initiatives of IDP Pantnagar by PI, IDP-NAHEP Dr. S.K.Kashyap. They also showed interest in various project interventions which ought to be beneficial for the farming community. Further, they interacted with the incubatees of the Innovation and Incubation Centre of IDP, and even agreed to guide and support them with technical and market related aspects of their respective agri-entrepreneurial ventures.

Initial Batch of Undergraduate Students Shortlisted for Overseas Exchange Programme

The Academic component of IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar has several components to strengthen the teaching-learning scenario of the University. The faculty and student overseas exchange programme, however is the most prospective component. The student overseas exchange programme will be conducted under three categories, i.e. foreign internship of three months, twinning/sandwich programme of one semester, and dual degree programme of two years. The selection process of students began as per ICAR norms, and the first batch of undergraduate students was shortlisted for foreign internship of three months at University of Illinois, USA.

A three phase selection procedure was followed, wherein after the initial screening of applications as per ICAR guidelines, a written examination was conducted, followed by a personal interview (PI) for each student. The written examination was held on February 16, 2020 which included an English Comprehension Test and a Core Subject Test. The shortlisted students were called for a personal interview on February 18, 2020, which was again a two-step process. The first round of the interview was a general awareness and personality assessment round, while the second round of the interview was a technical one. The committee for

the first round of interview included Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Tej Partap; Former Dean, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities, Pantnagar, Dr G.K. Garg; Registrar, Dr. A.P. Sharma; Nodal Officer (Academic), IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar, Dr. S.K. Guru; Dean, College of Agri-Business Management, Pantnagar, Dr. Devendra Kumar; and Coordinator of Innovation and Incubation Centre, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar, Dr. A.K. Upadhyay. The technical round of the interview was conducted by members of the academic team of IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar and included Dr. R.C Srivastava, Professor and Head, Dept. of Physics, College of Basic Sciences & Humanities, Dr. Shefali Massey, Assistant Professor, College of Home Science, and Dr. Amit Kesarwani, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture. After the rigorous screening process, the results were declared on February 21, 2020 and 30 students were shortlisted for three months internship programme at University of Illinois. The shortlisted students were from College of Agriculture, College of Home Science, College of Technology, and College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. This one of a kind internship programme is a unique initiative in Pantnagar University, and the IDP Pantnagar team hopes that the students will have a distinct learning experience.

The Main Events of March 2020

S. No.	Event	Proposed Date	Venue	Nodal Unit	Convener
1	Workshop on Development of Soft Skills for Entrepreneurship Among Agri-Graduates	01-03-2020	IDP Office, University Centre 2 nd Floor	Academic Team	Dr. Ranjan Srivastava, College of Agriculture
2	Hands-on Training on System Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine Experts: Dr. G. Taru Sharma, Dr. Sujoy Dhara, Dr. Amarpal from IVRI, Bareilly	Second Week of March, 2020	IDP Office, University Centre 2 nd Floor	Academic Team	Dr. Aman Kamboj, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences
3	Fish Laws and Quality Assurance in Food Products	14-03-2020 to 16-03-2020	IDP Office, University Centre 2 nd Floor	Academic Team	Dr. Vipul Gupta, College of Fisheries
4	Series of Entrepreneurial and People Skills Workshop For Undergraduate Students of Agriculture, Home Science, Veterinary, and Fisheries	Second-Third Week of March, 2020	IDP Office, University Centre Ground Floor	Academic Team	Dr. S.K. Guru, College of Basic Sciences and Humanities

Generating Opportunities for Global Exposure through IDP Initiatives

Dr. S.K. Kashyap

Dean, College of Agriculture/PI, IDP-NAHEP, Pantnagar

In last 60 years of its journey, Pantnagar University has produced students who have excelled at various fronts both at national and international platforms. There have been several University students who went to leading international institutes for higher studies or research or became a part of international policy making bodies. The IDP-NAHEP Pantnagar also has a mandate to strengthen international exposure and presence of Pantnagar students. There are several propositions for the same, out of which the initial three month internship programme was finalized with University of Illinois, USA. Through a series of meticulously designed selection tests which were in accordance with ICAR norms, the initial batch of students have been shortlisted for this internship programme. This entire intervention was a nurturing process for the students with respect to their understanding about international culture, global career options, worldwide agriculture scenario, contemporary soft skills, language composition, and self-assessment. This preparation and the future internship experience will definitely generate a better understanding among the students regarding their future and their roles as agriculture graduates. Also, the series of upcoming international programmes by IDP will indeed be a great opportunity for many other students of the University. Thus, I would encourage all students to make efforts to be a part of these international programmes by IDP, and otherwise also strive to earn and learn from opportunities of global exposure because insights from around the world expand your thought process and consciousness.



Experience innovation, Enhance your skills, Engage with leading academicians, Escalate the entrepreneurial curiosity within

Till date more than 700 university students have been benefited from IDP-NAHEP initiatives, hope you are in this list, and if not, then don't wait.

**Just be a part of upcoming events and activities,
and experience the new wave of learning !**

IDP Golden Points – Revised Scoring Scheme

Be a part of IDP-NAHEP events and activities to generate insightful learning and earn IDP Golden Points worth redeeming for exciting gifts and worthwhile memories.....

Participation and completion of 1 day event	25 points
Participation and completion of 2-3 days event	50 points
Participation and completion of more than 3 days event	75 points
Participation and completion of package courses (1 month or above)	100 points