



Dear well-wishers of IIT Gandhinagar,

Welcome to the fourth edition of our annual update letter.

I am pleased to share that **IITGN was ranked 7th in India** and among the top 600 institutions worldwide in the 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings released recently. IITGN has also been **ranked 4th at the Swachhata Ranking Awards 2019** in the ‘residential university – All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE)’ category. IITGN received **a five-star rating in the Eat Right Campus audit**, for ensuring food safety and promoting healthy eating, and became India's first educational institute to receive a 5-star rating from FSSAI.

Shifts in Pedagogy: New Programs

The academic programs at the Institute saw several major advancements this year. The **learning-by-doing** paradigm of teaching is being steadily ingrained in the academic fabric of the Institute through various initiatives. We are also developing **a 3-year pilot project on leadership development among students**, thanks to a significant gift from Mr. Avi Nash, a well-wisher of IITGN.

IITGN wishes to significantly enhance writing skills of its students. We have created a **“Writing Studio”** with dedicated staff to support students by reviewing, editing and giving feedback. We have **recently started a compulsory course on “Writing”** for all our postgraduate students, and a certification program in scientific writing is underway as well.

Partnerships & Opportunities

Our fundraising efforts this year **have been exceptionally successful**. Several new chairs were instituted this year through generous support from our well-wishers:

Prof. A V Anilkumar:

Smt Amba and Sri V S Sastri Distinguished Visiting Chair

Prof. Anil and Mrs. Hamida Chopra:

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Chair (Urdu)

Mr. Navin and Mrs. Pratibha Doshi:

Kanchan and Harilal Doshi Chair (Water & Sanitation)

Dr. Ushakant Thakkar through Dharma Civilization Foundation:

Irma and Ushakant Thakkar Chair (Sanskrit Studies)

Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy:

N Rama Rao Chair

Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST):

Vikram Sarabhai Chair

Mr. Kris Gopalakrishnan has contributed a major gift to support studies on the **History of Mathematics in India**. Early this year, we launched the **Dr Kiran C Patel Centre for Sustainable Development**. The Centre aims to become the principal resource centre for sustainable development in India. The establishment of **Maker Bhavan**, with the generous support of Dr. Hemant Kanakia, is promoting a learning-by-doing paradigm in teaching.

Six alumni of IITGN have setup six scholarships of 1 lakh per year to support the undergraduate students — Sai Chowdhary Gullapally (BTech 2016), Rounak Mehta (BTech 2015), Sarthak Jain (BTech 2012), Akshay Randad (BTech 2015), Luv Gupta (BTech 2012), Akash Keshav Singh (BTech 2015). Mr Parimal Karani, an Ahmedabad based businessman, contributed towards a **matching grant for alumni scholarships**.





Infrastructure and Development

The second phase of construction is progressing well. All the existing hostels have been provided with centralized air-conditioning. IITGN continues to strive towards being a zero-discharge green campus. The Institute continues to expand its R&D infrastructure. Sponsored and consultancy projects totalling over Rs 35 crores were sanctioned during the FY 2018-19.



Outreach and Social Impact

The Centre for Creative Learning is proactively promoting experiential education in schools and colleges. The Centre was awarded the first prize at the Vibrant Gujarat STEM conference, by the Union Minister of Education, for their work on experiential STEM education. More than 6,000 school teachers and engineering college professors and over 50,000 students from all over the country have been exposed to CCL's new teaching pedagogy.

Through its community outreach programs, IITGN is committed to the upliftment of neighbouring communities. NEEV, one of the community outreach programs of IIT Gandhinagar, continues to leverage the resources of IIT Gandhinagar by offering comprehensive training and mentoring to facilitate livelihood related opportunities for village women in its surrounding communities. Our students contribute to the welfare of underprivileged children through 'Nyasa'.



IITGN: The next five years

EXPANSION.

We expect to reach about 2,500-student strength, achieve increased graduation rates, witness an increase in post-doctoral researchers, accommodate more non-degree students, and welcome more international students.

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT.

The second phase of constructions, including hostels, guest house, sports complex and central arcade, and academic buildings, will soon be completed. Our focus will be to better integrate infrastructure with human use and soft dimensions, and to create a robust campus management system across users and managers.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT.

Several of our initiatives towards excellence are funded through philanthropic funds. Currently, more than 99% of the money being raised by IITGN is from non-alumni. However, we are building a strong culture of alumni engagement. This financial year, 27% of our alumni made a donation to the Institute, and we are challenging ourselves to raise it to 40% alumni engagement.

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS.

We expect to fully commission our Research Park with 90% occupancy. This will significantly deepen our engagement with the industry and enable our faculty and students to carry out impactful research.

I was honored to be reappointed as director for the third term, and am looking forward to working with the IITGN fraternity over the next five years on the next phase of our evolution as an institute of national and global reputation. **IITGN's success thus far is a tribute to the collaborative work of its dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of the Institute.** I am excited about our future as we collectively push the envelope to raise our beloved Institute to ever greater heights.

With best wishes,

Sudhir K Jain

