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भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय संघ

ए आई यू हाउस, 16, कॉमरेड इन्द्रजीत गुप्ता मार्ग
नई दिल्ली - 110 002

Association of Indian Universities

AIU House, 16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg
New Delhi 110 002

Dr. Sistla Rama Devi Pani
Head, Research Division

Ref. No. AIU/ Res/Anveshan/ 2012/1/
Date: 23-7-2012

Dear Sir,

Research and innovations are considered to be the cardinal factors for knowledge creation, which is essential for the prosperity of human civilization. The universities are primarily considered to be breeding ground for grooming the future talents. However, our higher learning institutions are still in the process of creating conducive research culture and nurturing it. Keeping this in view and to share up with the universities in this responsibility, the Association of Indian Universities organizes Student Research Convention called Anveshan, every year to identify and nurture the Research talent in the Indian University Students. For the year 2011-12, we have scheduled the months of October/November to conduct the Convention. The Convention is held at two levels -- Zonal and National. As per our experience, around 45-50 candidates participate in each zone in the zonal convention. At National level around 60-70 candidates participate. The National Convention is organized in one of the zones rotation-wise. This year the turn is of South Zone.

We are writing this letter to know your keenness to conduct the Convention in your University. If you are interested in conducting it in your university, you may please inform us by 2nd week of August, 2012, along with the details of infrastructure facilities in your university to conduct the proceedings of the Convention as well as to accommodate the candidates and Resource Persons attending it. If you are from South Zone, you may also convey your interest in conducting the National Convention. On receiving responses from interested universities we shall finalize the dates and venues. The venue will be decided by Senior Officers of AIU or a Committee, based on several parameters. A write-up containing the details of Anveshan is enclosed for your reference which also contains the responsibilities to be undertaken by the host University.

I may further request you to intimate the students of your university and affiliated colleges to start preparing their Research Projects for the convention as per the guidelines.

You may send your response to me to the address Head, Research Division, Association of Indian Universities, 16, Comrade Indrajit Gupta Marg, New Delhi - 110 002, Email: aiuresearch@yahoo.com and unaiu89@gmail.com. In case of any query you may contact me over my mobile 09968301524 or Office Phone No. 011-23230059.

Looking forward for your timely response.

With regards

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Director
(Research)

Yours sincerely

Dr. S. Rama Devi Pani

Please send copies to all the Deans of schools
and also in the University's website.

PU/Dir(Res)/751
Dt: 3-8-2012

PU/Dir(Res)/761

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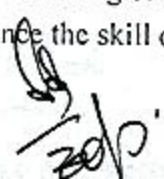
Anveshan: Student Research Convention

Spirit of inquiry, creativity and innovativeness are some of the natural endowments bestowed upon human beings, which are the keys to transformation of life. These factors, when manifested in the form of research, open new frontiers of knowledge, which is instrumental for all forms of development. Perhaps, this is the reason for which research is recognized as one of the core functions of the universities/institutions of higher learning and the universities have been rendering this responsibility with utmost diligence. India's noteworthy progress in the field of Information Technology, Energy and Space etc are the outcome of consistent endeavour of our intellectual resources. India, currently producing a solid core of knowledge workers in tertiary and scientific and technical education and its economy and industrial sector set for an unparalleled growth is poised to become the future global knowledge hub. However, the onus lies largely on our Higher Education system and particularly on our universities. But, of late, research has become a subservient component in the university functioning. Resource constraints, lack of commitment, proper incentive etc., are the impediments that are affecting the quality of research in our institutions of higher education. Other important factors for the deterioration of the quality of research are the absence of adequate training and other capacity building endeavour in our system, which have restricted students' creativity only to rote memory. On the contrary, their potential should be nurtured and exploited for the benefit of the society. The current boom in Indian economy signaling an era of transformation should provide ample opportunity for success to innovative young brains to become trend setters and role models of a vibrant India.

With a view to inculcating research culture in our higher education institutions, the Association of Indian Universities has taken a pioneering initiative to organize student research conventions for the aspiring researchers through out the country. These conventions aim at identifying the young and rising talents who would be promoted through proper encouragement and incentives. Also an attempt shall be made to commercialize their research projects with industrial collaboration. The endeavour may accelerate scientific research and innovation and their application towards community development percolating to the grassroot level. Anveshan enters the second year after its immense success at the first stint. Anveshan 2008 was applauded across the country for providing an innovative platform for students and generating particularly a culture of research among young students.

Objectives

- To identify young talents with research aptitude and interest to take up research as career.
- To promote the talent in research throughout the country.
- To nurture the talent through specialized training and education in some of the nationally and internationally reputed premier institutions of higher learning in the country.
- To augment financial and physical resources through collaboration with different sponsors for supporting education and training of the young researchers.
- To provide proper incentives to enhance the skill of potential students


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- To initiate an intensive research culture in a selected group of institutions

Areas/Fields

The areas/fields in which Projects (**Individual and group projects***) are invited:

- Agriculture
- Basic Sciences
- Engineering & Technology
- Health Sciences and Allied Subjects, Pharmacy, Nutrition, etc.
- Social Sciences, Humanities, Commerce and Law (objective and result oriented projects)

* In case of a **Group project**, only three members [one principal investigator and two major contributors] are allowed to participate in the zonal/ national convention.

Type of Project

- Projects on the above mentioned areas must have undergone some exploration/ ground work in order to show its impact

Methodology

- The duration of the convention will be **three days**
- The convention will be held in **three phases**.
 - i. In the **First Phase**, all universities in the country will be requested to organize an exhibition of research projects at **University level** in which students from **affiliated/constituent colleges, research institutions and university post graduate departments** will participate. The exhibited projects will be scrutinized by a team of experts.
 - ii. In the **Second Phase**, the exhibition will be held at **Zonal level** for which four universities, one in each zone, have been identified (calendar enclosed for details). From each zone **best 15 projects** will be given entry to compete at the **National level**.
 - iii. In the **Third Phase**, the exhibition/competition will be held at **National level**. The Association of Indian Universities will call for the successful projects, selected through the zonal competition, for **National level competition**. A total of **60 selected projects** will be displayed for assessment at the National level out of which **15 projects** will be finally selected.

No. of Projects

- Each university is allowed to send a maximum number of **five projects** for the zonal level Student Research Convention.
- In case of the universities/ institutes not having courses/ programmes in all the above mentioned categories, entry of five projects in their respective fields shall also be entertained.

- The selected projects duly countersigned by the head of the organization must reach the coordinator of the host university in each zone latest by ----
-----, Registration form for zonal level convention is enclosed.

The projects will be assessed by a panel of experts drawn from various disciplines. The students whose projects will be selected in the final stage at national level convention will be promoted through proper incentives for career development in research.

Criteria for Assessment of Projects

All the projects will be assessed on the basis of following criteria. Each criterion is assigned some weightage. The final selection of projects will be based on the cumulative weightage given on all criteria.

Criteria

- Scientific Thoughts and Principles
- Creativity
- Thoroughness
- Skill
- Relevance
- Cost Effectiveness
- Teamwork

Apart from the above criteria, **Scope of Commercialization** of the projects will be considered as an additional merit. However, there will be no weightage point for this criterion. In case of the projects having scored equal cumulative weightage point, this criterion will be considered for making the final decision.

Eligibility for Participation

Entries of the research projects will be purely **Institutional** and only bonafide fulltime students from undergraduate to Doctoral degree level are eligible to take part in the convention.

Entry/Registration Fee for Zonal level Convention

Entry - Rs. 500/- (per member including accompanying staff)

(The entry fee for zonal level competition in the form of **Demand Draft** drawn in favour of **Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi** and the **Registration form** should be sent to the **Coordinator, Research Division, Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi** with a copy to the coordinator of the **Organizing University**) There is no registration fee for National level convention.

Board and Lodging

At zonal level, the host university will make the arrangement for accommodation; breakfast, lunch and dinner at reasonable rates on payment. Those requiring such facilities may contact the Coordinator of the host university (Pl. see the calendar for the name and contact details of the zonal coordinators)

Responsibility of Organizers

AIU

- Identifying agencies for providing sponsorship to students selected and for conducting national level convention.
- Identifying universities at Zonal/National level for organizing the convention.
- Financial support to the host university. (AIU will pay Rs 1 lac as seed money to each university conducting the Convention at the zonal level and Rs 1.5 lacs to the University hosting National level convention)
- Signing MoU with sponsoring agencies (except organizing local activities)
- Coordinating the convention and post convention activities.

Host University

- Sending circulars to constituent colleges for inviting projects from the students.
- Board, lodging (on reasonable charges) and other logistics for participants , observers, Local coordination in organizing the three-day programme
- Selection of experts: The panel of experts (preferably retired academicians from the Host University as well as adjoining institutions, personnel from local industries) should have at least one expert in each area/ field.
- TA/DA and token honorarium of Rs 1000 (per day) to each expert will be covered from the seed money paid by AIU.