



Photo by S. Mofazzal, University Coloring Day 2018

# IUT International E-Newsletter

**A window to international activities of IUT**

**Volume 2, Issue No. 2**

**November 2020**



## What we read in this Issue:

- IUT Awards and Honors
- IUT International News and Activities
- An Overview on IUT International Activities - Cotutelle Program
- Opportunities
- International Etiquettes (Part 4)



# IUT Awards and Honors

## A Glorious Record for IUT

### 15 Faculty Members are among the Top 2% of Scientists Worldwide



In the exhaustive list of 1,59,683 persons, announced as the world's top 2% scientists by Stanford University, 433 Iranian scientists have found a place, representing various disciplines. Among them, 15 scientists from IUT have been listed as the most-cited scientists in Basic Sciences, Engineering, and Natural Resources. This extensive database created by experts at Stanford University is also based on data from Scopus that ranks journals and gives a citation index. This database includes the top 2 percent of scientists of the world from different fields on the basis of standardized citation indicators. These include information on the number of citations, H -Index, co-authorship and a composite indicator. The results were published in PloS Biology recently, and they have been classified into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields in the report.

The Top 2% of Scientists from IUT are: **Prof. Dr. Ali Asghar Ensafi, Prof. Dr. Behzad Rezaei, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Seraji, Prof. Dr. Shadpour Malekpour, Prof. Dr. Abdolreza Hajipour, Prof. Dr. Mohamad Mohsen Mo'meni and Prof. Dr. Fatemeh Davar**, from the **Department of Chemistry**; **Prof. Dr. Keykhosrow Karimi**, **Department of Chemical Engineering**, **Prof. Dr. Reza Modares**, the **Department of Natural Resources Engineering**; **Prof. Dr. Mohammad Hossein Enayati, Prof. Dr. Fakhreddin Ashrafizadeh and Prof. Dr. Mohammad Hossein Fathi**, the **Department of Materials Engineering**; **Prof. Dr. Ahmad Sohankar and Prof. Dr. Mohammad Reza Salimpour**, the **Department of Mechanical Engineering** and **Prof. Dr. Hossein Farzanehfard** from the **Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering**.

[Read more](#)

## A Cotutelle PhD Agreement between IUT and POLITO

A dual Ph.D. program was established between **Isfahan University of Technology** and the **Polytechnic University of Torino, Italy**, in the framework of cotutelle. According to this contract, **Mr. Mostafa Sedaghat**, a doctoral student at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is to receive two Ph.D. Degrees, one from each university.

Mr. Sedaghat previously spent part of his Ph.D. research program at the Polytechnic University of Torino under the Erasmus Plus program, financed by the European Union. According

to the agreements of his supervisors at both universities, Polito and IUT, **Prof. Dr. Flavio Canavero** and **Prof. Dr. Zaker Hossein Firouzeh**, to conduct this joint research, a dual degree PhD program was offered to him by both universities under the cotutelle program.

A cotutelle program refers to an agreement on joint supervision between two universities at the doctoral level. It allows students to get a double PhD degree delivered individually by each institution.



## A Joint Research Work between IUT & Palacký University

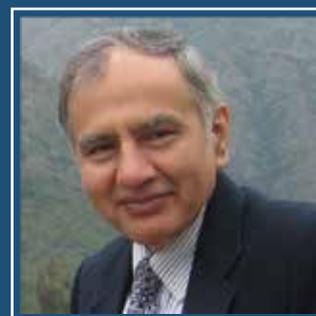
**A research paper published by an IUT researcher on 2D MXenes in Advanced Materials with an impact factor of 27**

The result of a collaboration in MXene based nanocomposites, carried out by **Mr. Massoud Malaki**, an IUT PhD student in Mechanical Engineering, and Professor Rajender Singh Varma with Palacký University of Czech Republic, has recently been published by a highly prestigious international journal, *Advanced Materials*, with an impact factor of 27.398.

The family of 2D MXene nanoparticles, commonly used in a wide variety of cutting-edge research on energy, medicine, environment, among others, was firstly discovered in 2011, and to date, extensive efforts have been made on this dynamic and fascinating field with tremendous potentials as advanced materials and structures. While the fundamental sciences of physics and chemistry of MXene are being explored, the engineering branch is nearly intact, providing innumerable opportunities with encouraging results.

In this study, being a part of the authors' ongoing research in the field, the mechanotribological aspects of MXene reinforced nanocomposites, including those with polymer, ceramics, or metal-based matrices, are studied. Further, research pitfalls, potentials as well as future horizons are delineated in this paper.

**Read more**



## An IUT Alumni Won the DAAD Prize 2020

### DAAD Prize 2020 for Outstanding Achievements of International Students

The logo for DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) features the letters 'DAAD' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The background of the logo is a light orange color with a faint, stylized pattern of overlapping lines.

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service

DAAD Prize is awarded to international students with outstanding academic achievements and remarkable volunteering social commitment by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). **Ms. Sanaz Sadat Afzali**, an outstanding IUT alumnus, was one of the winners of this well-known award. Ms. Afzali is one of the IUT Elite former students who studied **Electrical Engineering - Communications** and **Computer Engineering - Software** simultaneously at Isfahan University of Technology.

She is currently studying for her Master's Degree in Communication and Information Technology at the University of Bermen.

The DAAD Prize has been awarded for over ten years to outstanding international students. Students should be near the end of their Bachelor's degree or in their Master's degree program, provided that achievements acquired at their university can already be clearly identified and evaluated or certified.

The students who have received this prize via their respective host institutions stand for their fellow students from all around the world.

IUT international proudly congratulates her for this achievement and wishes her long-term success in her studies.

As one of the IUT successful alumni, she will be interviewed in the next issue of IUT International E-newsletter.



Universität Bremen

## Holding and Attending Webinars

### Weekly Webinars

**Isfahan University of Technology**  
**International Scientific Cooperation Center**

**Weekly Webinars on Combinatorial Optimization**  
**THE MATCHING PROBLEM: A SHORT JOURNEY THROUGH ALGORITHMS AND POLYTOPES**

The IUT International proudly announces series of Webinars on Optimization scheduled to take place weekly from **December 3,- 24, 2020**

**Confirmed Speakers are:**

- Prof. Dr. Paolo Ventura, Institute of System Analysis and Informatics, CNR, Italy
- Dr. Maryam Salami, Former Researcher at Institute of System Analysis and Informatics, CNR, Marie Curie 7<sup>th</sup> Framework, ITN

**Registration link:**  
<http://internationalnews.iut.ac.ir/form/13/17>

The IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center convenes a series of webinars on "**Combinatorial Optimization**, The Matching Problem: a short journey through Algorithms and Polytopes ", from December 3 -24, 2020.

These weekly webinars are presented by **Prof. Paolo Ventura**, Institute of System Analysis and Informatics, CNR, Italy, and **Dr. Maryam Salami**, Former Researcher at Institute of System Analysis and Informatics, CNR, Marie Curie 7<sup>th</sup> Framework, ITN.

You may find more information and the registration form from **here**.

Dr. Maryam Salami, who is the coordinator of these weekly webinars, is currently cooperating with IUT International and is one of the IUT post-doctoral candidates at the Department of ECE.

Department of Civil Engineering of IUT held a webinar on "**Compound and Cascading Hazards: Modeling and Risk Assessment**", on November 18, 2020. This webinar was presented by **Prof. Dr. Amir Aghakouchak**, from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Irvine, USA. **Prof. Dr. Milad Aminzadeh**, the internationalization coordinator of the Department of Civil Engineering, organized this webinar.



Prof. Dr. Milad. Aminzadeh



Prof. Dr. Amir Aghakouchak

**Compound and Cascading Hazards: Modeling and Risk Assessment**

**Professor Amir Aghakouchak**  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
University of California, Irvine, USA

**Abstract:** Ground-based observations and model simulations show substantial increases in extreme events including rainfall events, droughts, wildfires, hot spells and heatwaves. The first step toward improving our societal resilience is to identify the new patterns of climate extremes and natural hazards. This requires a better understanding of tempo-spatial characteristics of natural hazards and also the interactions between different hazards in a changing climate. A combination of climate events (e.g., high temperatures and high humidity, or low precipitation and high temperatures) may cause a significant impact on the ecosystem and society, although individual events involved may not be severe extremes themselves – a notion known as compound event (e.g., extreme rain over burned areas, combined ocean and terrestrial flooding). Numerous studies have focused on how different types of extremes have changed or might change in the future. However, very few studies have investigated the changing risk of compound and cascading events. This presentation focuses on three different types of compound and cascading events including drought-heatwaves, sea level rise-terrestrial flooding, and meteorological-antropogenic drought. We present different methodological frameworks and perspectives for detecting, modeling and risk assessment of compound and cascading events.

**Amir Aghakouchak** is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Irvine. His research focuses on natural hazards and climate extremes and crosses the boundaries between hydrology, climatology, and remote sensing. He has received a number of honors and awards including the AGU Macmillan Medal and the ASCE Huber Research Prize. Amir is currently serving as the Editor-in-Chief of Earth's Future.

زمان: چهارشنبه ۲۸ آبان ۱۳۹۹ - ساعت ۱۰:۳۰  
لینک وبینار دانشگاه صنعتی اصفهان:  
<https://meet.iut.ac.ir/join/131-2020-gz>

## Attending a Webinar

The IUT International team attended a webinar on "**Introducing opportunities to attract financial support for joint research projects with German universities**" on November 18, 2020. The webinar was organized by Tehran University of Medical Sciences and in the presence of the Director of International Affairs of the German Research Foundation, "DFG".



## About DFG

German Research Foundation, DFG, is the central, independent research funding organization for basic research in Germany. It serves all branches of science and the humanities by funding research projects at universities and other research institutions. Its member organizations include research universities, non-university research institutions, such as the Max Planck Society, Fraunhofer, the Helmholtz Association and the Leibniz Association, the academies of sciences and humanities, and a number of scientific associations.

The DFG promotes excellence by selecting the best research projects on a competitive basis and facilitating national and international collaboration among researchers.

### 3 Useful DFG Funding Lines:

- ◆ Initiation of International Collaboration
- ◆ Individual Research Grants
- ◆ Scientific Network

### Funding Principles:

- ◆ Open, bottom-up choice of research topics
- ◆ Basic research in any field of Science and the humanities
- ◆ No age restrictions
- ◆ Individual career phases and family-related career breaks and considered in the review process
- ◆ No deadlines, (almost) no calls



## New Executive Committee for IALE\_IRAN 2021-2024

The International Association for Landscape Ecology, **IALE\_Iran** has announced the new executive committee for 2021-2024:

### The Executive Committee:

President: **Sima Fakheran** (Isfahan University of Technology)

Vice President: **Ali Jafari** (Shahrekord University)

Secretary-general: **Ahad Sotoudeh** (Yazd University)

Treasurer: **Ali Lotfi** (Isfahan University of Technology)

### Board Members:

**Majid F. Makhdoum** (University of Tehran)

**Parastoo Parivar** (Yazd University)

**Hossein Moradi** (Isfahan University of Technology)



The new team will launch the next chapter of IALE\_Iran and appreciate all the former EC members' efforts and contributions.

The International Association for Landscape Ecology (IALE) aims to develop landscape ecology as the scientific basis for the analysis, planning, and management of the world's landscapes. IALE advances international cooperation and interdisciplinary synergism within the field through scientific, scholarly, educational, and communication activities.

IALE\_Iran is the first IALE regional chapter in the middle east. IALE-Iran was accepted as an official IALE chapter in April 2012 by the EC of IALE International, and then IALE-Iran was recognized by the IALE Council in May 2012.

**Dr. Sima Fakheran**, a faculty member of the Department of Natural Resources, served as one of the prominent founding members of IALE-IRAN and has been the President of IALE-IRAN since 2012.

She has also been elected as one of the Vice-Presidents of IALE from 2017 to 2021. The establishment of the Iranian chapter of IALE fostered the process of extending scientific knowledge to practitioners. It has encouraged communication between scientists, policymakers, planners, and practitioners in landscape ecology in Iran.



**Website:** <https://natres.iut.ac.ir/en/iale>

**Email:** [iale.iran@of.iut.ac.ir](mailto:iale.iran@of.iut.ac.ir)

## ITCC Brief Introduction

**Innovation and Technology Commercialization Center (ITCC)** of IUT is established to facilitate the university and industry relations by providing up-to-date methods in a customized structure. ITCC invests in technology development to increase the technology readiness level to be transferred to the corresponding industry. ITCC has three main departments consisting of **Innovation Office, Technology Transfer Office, and Entrepreneurship Office**. Each of them concentrates on a specific area to complete the whole chain of innovation and technology commercialization.

**The Innovation Office** provides financial support, equipped private office, related mentoring, and accessibility to a wide range of laboratory equipment and materials for research teams to develop knowledge-based products and methods, and increase their technology readiness level.

**Technology Transfer Office** accelerates technology commercialization in a flexible and legally safe infrastructure by providing various services, including market research, technology valuation, share allocation, patent arbitration, and professional consultation in filing patents, business plan development and business model design.

**Entrepreneurship Center's** mission is to strengthen graduate and undergraduate students' soft skills by holding a wide variety of entrepreneurial workshops and events from fundamental to professional levels. The center also provides an attractive co-working space and seed money for startups to boost up their ideas and raise fund for the next steps.



Iran-Switzerland Wrokshop in ITCC, 2018

## An Overview on IUT International Activities

### What do you know about Cotutelle Program?

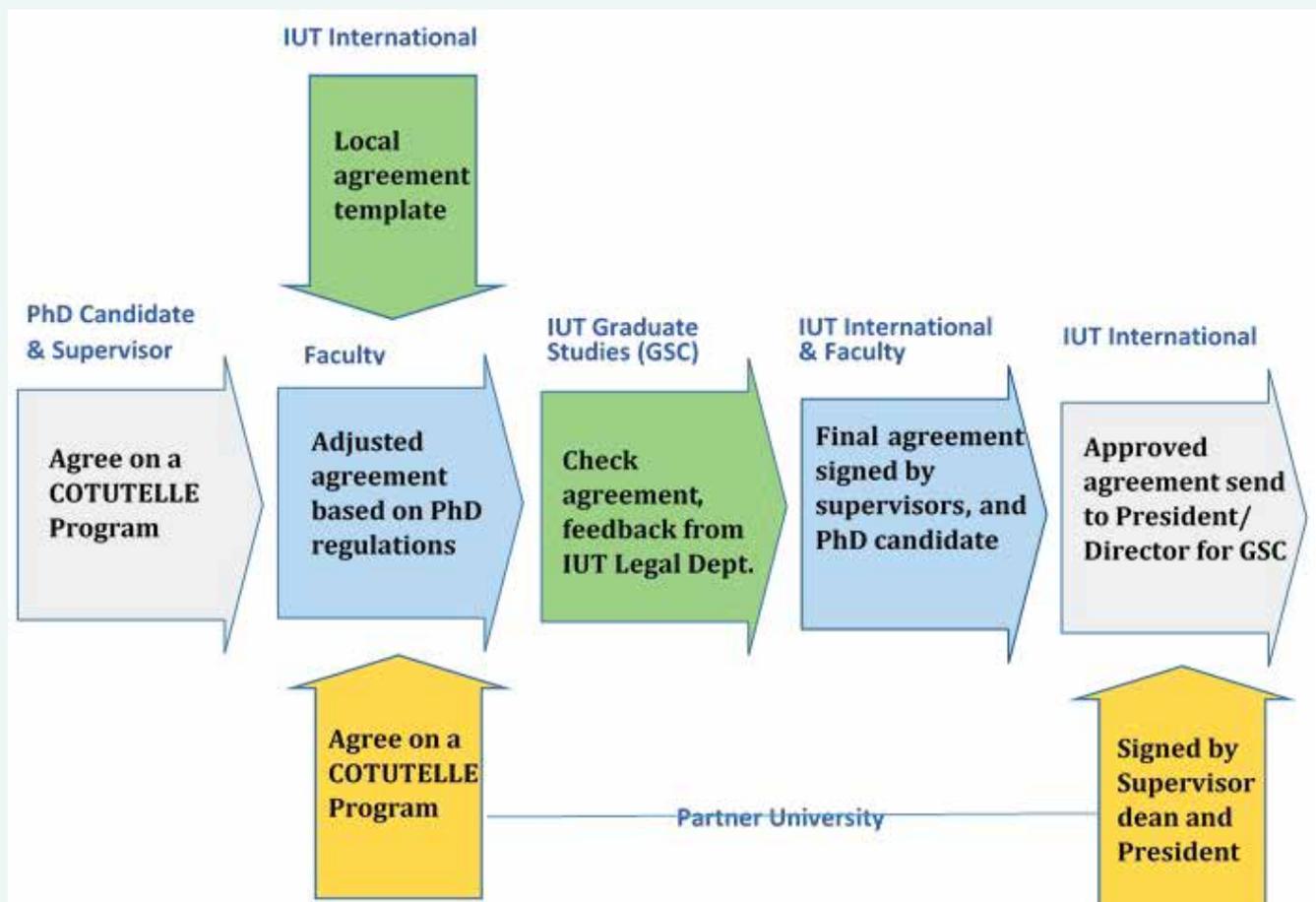
Doctoral programs are periods of work and creativity that offer young researchers real professional experience. Candidates learn the craft of research while researching in an international context.

#### Cotutelle Program

A cotutelle program is a type of dual degree program in which a doctoral student is **co-supervised by two supervisors**, each from a different university, different country, and the student spends time at each institution. The student writes one thesis under the supervision of an advisory committee comprised of members from both universities. Upon completion, the student receives two degrees, acknowledging that the degree was completed as a dual degree program, noting the partner institution. While a dual degree program is an agreement between two programs at two institutions, a cotutelle program is an agreement tailored to an individual student studying at two institutions.

Students currently studying in a doctoral program at IUT should discuss the option with their current supervisors before proceeding. If the supervisor and home academic unit agree, the student should contact the partner university and identify a potential supervisor.

Cotutelle programs will exist through an approved cotutelle Ph.D. program agreement. The Center for Graduate Studies administers agreements for cotutelle programs at IUT.



## Opportunities

### UNESCO-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences



The UNESCO-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences rewards individuals or institutions' significant efforts through scientific research towards improving the quality of human life. The core objectives of the Prize is to encourage research, enhance collaboration amongst researchers, and reinforce networks of centers of excellence in the life sciences towards these goals.

The Prize, funded by the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, is given annually to a maximum of three laureates. They receive a monetary award of USD 350,000, divided equally among laureates, to help further their research, together with a certificate and the "Integration Tribal" statuette by Equatorial Guinean artist Leandro Mbomio.

The call for applications is open until December 20, 2020.



[Read more](#)

### Call for reciprocal scholarships between Iran and Hungary in 2021-2022



Considering the cultural, scientific, and educational exchange program between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Hungary, and following the negotiations between the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education with their Hungarian counterparts, the two sides have agreed on awarding mutual scholarships in various fields of graduate studies for the academic year 2021-2022.

According to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's scholarship policies, interested Iranian applicants may refer to the following address for pre-registration in the universities approved by Iranian Ministries. <https://apply.stipendiumhungaricum.hu>

**Deadline for registration:** until the end of office hours on January 15, 2021.

**Read more**

## Master of Advanced Studies in European and International Governance" (MEIG) Program



The advertisement for the MEIG program features a collage of images including the MEIG logo, a woman in a graduation cap, a large hall with a stage, and a cityscape. The text is organized into columns and sections.

**Take over an executive function in an international environment!**

- A unique learning experience at the University of Geneva in cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva
- A programme designed for graduates and professionals with different backgrounds
- Interdisciplinary teaching team composed of top academics and practitioners

Provide a deep understanding of the political, economic, social and legal aspects of European and International Governance

Acquisition of skills indispensable for future leaders

Build an exceptional network in Geneva and beyond

**Apply Now!**

From September to July  
10 modules over 6 months

Followed by 3 months for either:  
-- An internship  
-- A professional project  
-- A master's thesis

Programme to be achieved in 1 or 2 years. Possibility to participate in individual modules

#MEIG\_Programme  
in   

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE | UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE | www.meig.ch | meig@unige.ch | +41 (0) 22 379 89 89

University of Geneva has been publishing the "Master of Advanced Studies in European and International Governance" (MEIG) program.

The MEIG program, organized by the University of Geneva in cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), combines the academic excellence of the University of Geneva, the Centre d'études juridiques européennes and the Global Studies Institute with the expertise of practitioners from diverse international organizations and bodies based in Geneva and Brussels.

The whole program is taught in English and lasts for 10 months (from September to July).

DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES TO TAKE PART AND ENROLL IN THE MEIG PROGRAM

The Program in one year

The Program in two years

Participation in Individual modules

**For more information:**

<https://international.iut.ac.ir/en/node/935>

## Call for 2021 UNESCO MAB Young Scientists Awards

Since 1989 The International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Program -MAB has been supporting young researchers each year with awards of up to US\$ 5,000 to support their research on ecosystems, natural resources, and biodiversity. Through the MAB Young Scientists Awards, MAB is investing in a new generation of scientists worldwide because well-trained, and committed young people are key to addressing ecological and sustainability issues.

### Deadline for applications:

January 15, 2021

Note that UNESCO must receive applications no later than the deadline to be eligible.

For Criteria and Application forms:

**Read more**



## Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Scholarship Call for PhD

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) intends to provide scholarships in various fields in order to improve the quality of human resources in different countries with the following subjects:

### ◆ Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security

**Deadline:** November 16, 2020  
and

### ◆ Human Resources Development for Electricity and Energy Sector

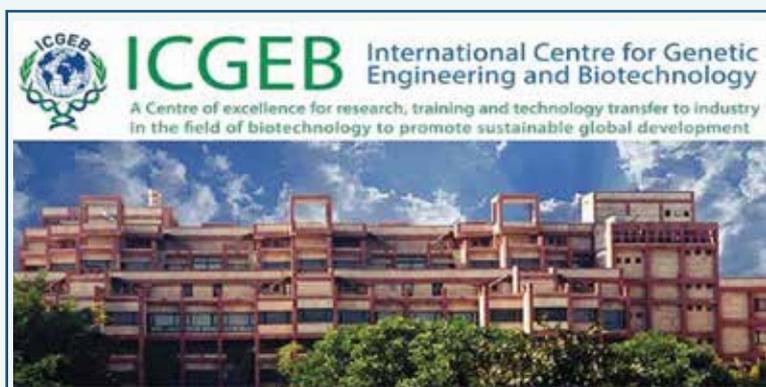
**Deadline:** December 15, 2020  
**Read more**

### ◆ Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Leaders Capacity Development for the Sendai Framework Implementation - FY2021"

**Deadline:** February 8, 2021  
**Read more**



## Call for Long-term Scholarship Programs for 2021 International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology



Call for Long-Term Scholarship Programs for 2021 International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

The International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) long-term scholarship programs for 2021 are announced as follows:

### ICGEB PhD Fellowships

<https://www.icgeb.org/activities/fellowship/guidelines-and-application-form-arturo-falaschi-phd-fellowships/>

**Closing Date for Application:** MARCH 31, 2021

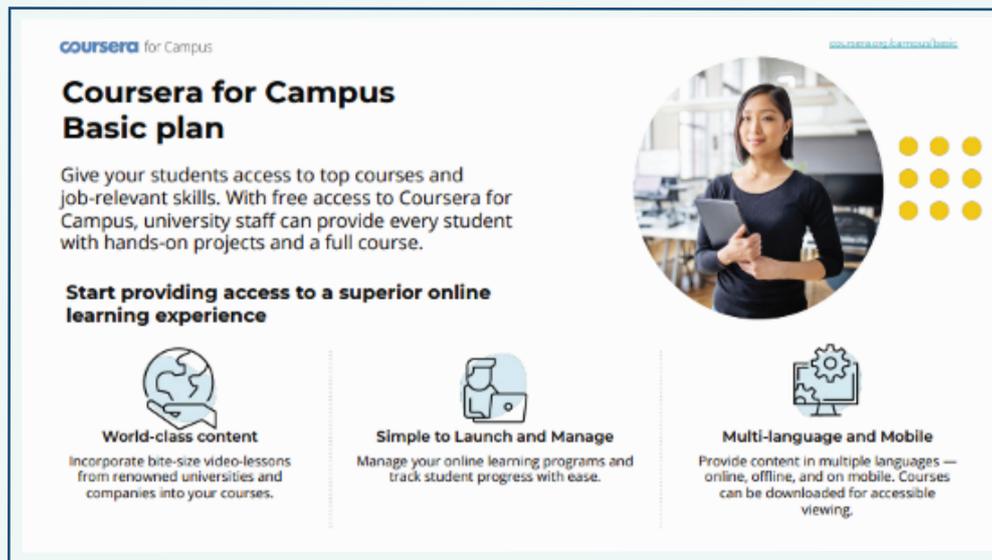
### ICGEB Postdoctoral Fellowships

<https://www.icgeb.org/activities/fellowship/guidelines-and-application-form-arturo-falaschi-postdoctoral-fellowships/>

**Closing Dates for Applications:** MARCH 31 AND SEPTEMBER 30 2021

Applicants can access the application form and the list of the required documents on the above addresses and apply online.

## Your Chance to Excel Coursera for Campus Basic Plan



The graphic features the Coursera logo and the text 'Coursera for Campus Basic plan'. It includes a circular image of a woman with a tablet and a grid of yellow dots. Below the main text are three icons with corresponding descriptions: a globe for 'World-class content', a laptop for 'Simple to Launch and Manage', and a gear for 'Multi-language and Mobile'.

**Coursera** for Campus

### Coursera for Campus Basic plan

Give your students access to top courses and job-relevant skills. With free access to Coursera for Campus, university staff can provide every student with hands-on projects and a full course.

**Start providing access to a superior online learning experience**

- World-class content**  
Incorporate bite-size video-lessons from renowned universities and companies into your courses.
- Simple to Launch and Manage**  
Manage your online learning programs and track student progress with ease.
- Multi-language and Mobile**  
Provide content in multiple languages — online, offline, and on mobile. Courses can be downloaded for accessible viewing.

All students are invited to take advantage of certified courses through online learning opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The students have been able to take advantage of a catalog of over 4,000 certified courses from some of the world's best universities (i.e., Toronto, Princeton, Duke, etc.) and learn the skills of the future wherever they are.

The Coursera Campus Basic Plan is a **free** option for universities which includes:

- ◆ Up to 20,000 licenses for currently enrolled university students
- ◆ **Unlimited Guided Projects but only one course per student** per year
- ◆ Administrative dashboards and analytics to manage the program
- ◆ Online help centers for program admins and students

This plan is free and new for universities and colleges globally that has been launched on October 1, 2020.

To get your free certificated courses, you may visit the website at: [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org)



Enjoy an ocean of golden leaves at IUT.

Photo by IUT International



## Isfahan University of Technology (IUT)



### Announcement for students' registration in the Student committees of international cooperation of IUT

Deadline for registration: December 30, 2020

#### Goals:

- Training students in the field of international academic communication
- Benefiting the students' abilities to promote the international activities of the university
- Organizing international activities of students



Address: IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center

Email: [info.international@of.iut.ac.ir](mailto:info.international@of.iut.ac.ir)



*Happy Student's Day*

*"You have to dream before your dream can come true."*



Photo by: S. Montazavi, University Coloring Day 2018

## International Etiquettes

### International Travel Tips

When traveling to foreign countries, you can do several things to make the most of your travel, including preparation with passports and visas, metric conversions, and currency calculations.

- ◆ Passports are required for all foreign travels. Make sure you have copies in each piece of your luggage and leave one with an individual you can contact at home in case of an emergency.
- ◆ Most foreign travels also require a visa. Visas can be obtained through each country's embassy or consulate. Be aware that this may take time for the processing, which ranges from two to eight weeks. Be sure this is requested in advance of your departure date.
- ◆ You may also need to convert currency prior to departure. This can often be done at a bank or major airports.
- ◆ The majority of the world uses the metric system, so you may want a converter for distances, measurement, and temperature conversions.

Many foreign countries also use different voltages, so be sure to pack a voltage adapter.

Here is a brief checklist for items you may want to include: your passport and visa, government identification, emergency contact list, cash currency, credit cards, hotel information, car rental information, insurance cards, and business cards.



### Gift Giving

Gift-giving practices vary by country. It's important to ask your hotel concierge what type of gift would be appropriate. In some countries, trinkets may be offensive or give the wrong meaning. The American eagle is very near to the hearts in the United States; it is offensive in China and Saudi Arabia because it indicates bad luck. In some cultures, gifts are not opened in front of the gift giver; they are opened later. This is the case in Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea.



<https://www.universalclass.com>

In order to expand the university's international scientific interactions with overseas academic institutions, the IUT International is publishing this electronic Newsletter on international relations and in line with the IUT mission towards a Green University.

You are invited to register your email **here** to receive the new issue of the newsletter upon its publication. You can also correspond with the editorial board from **here** to convey your valuable comments and suggestions or to send materials related to IUT to be published in future issues of the newsletter.

To see the previous issues and more information on the newsletter, please click **here**.

In addition to being distributed via social networks, this newsletter will also be available through the following QR code. Your constructive participation in this path will guide us toward our goals.



## **Volume 2, Issue No. 2 November 2020**

IUT International Newsletter is a periodic E-newsletter to be distributed among IUT students and staff.

Your constructive comments and suggestions are most welcomed.

### **Contact us**

**Tel:** 031- 33912505-6  
**Fax:** 031- 33912511  
**E-mail:** international@iut.ac.ir  
**Website:** international.iut.ac.ir  
**Telegram:** IUT\_International  
**Instagram:** IUT\_International  
**Address:**

IUT International - Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, IRAN

### **Managing Editor:**

Sima Fakheran, PhD

### **Editor-in-chief:**

Neda Shams

### **News & Design Director:**

Nassim Yazdianpour

### **Associate Editor:**

Mohammad Baqeri

### **Licensed by:**

Isfahan University of Technology

Special Thanks to 4C Advertising Group as the Graphic Designer and also IUT International staff for their great help.