



IUT INTERNATIONAL E-NEWSLETTER

A window to international activities of IUT

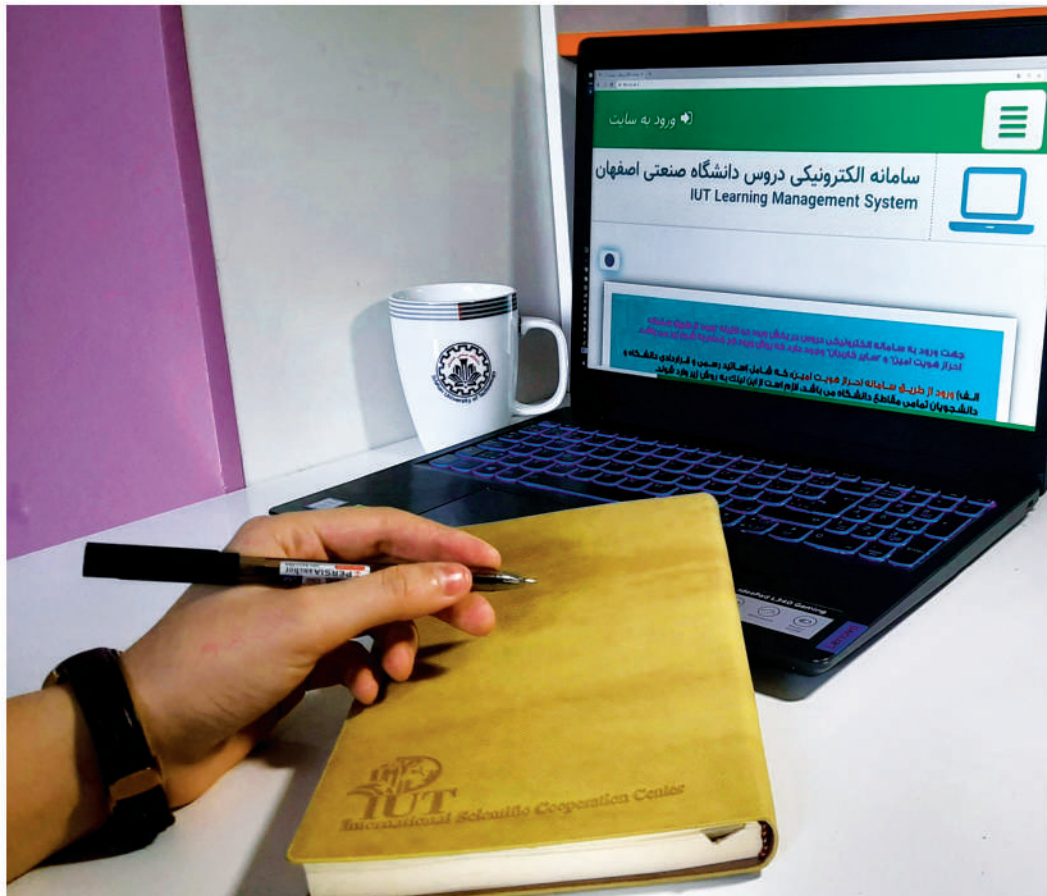
Isfahan University of Technology



Eightth Issue: June 2020

COVID-19

IUT International E- Newsletter



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

The purpose of the publication is to keep the esteemed professors, dear students and staff of the University informed of international events, educational and research opportunities available in international academic spaces that reach the office through various means, visits' news and conferences as well as regulations and bylaw instructions related to international affairs which can affect the interna-

tional scientific interactions of outstanding academics. According to a recent survey conducted at the university, a majority of the academics want the newsletter to continue being published electronically. Therefore, being distributed via social networks, this newsletter will also be available through the following ▶

Your constructive participation in this path will guide us toward our goal.

Please Scan





Prof. Dr. Sima Fakheran was reappointed by the President of Isfahan University of Technology for the next two years as the Director of the IUT International Scientific Cooperation Center.

Dr. Fakheran is an Associate professor of Environmental Sciences, an alumna from the University of Zurich, Switzerland, Head of Swiss desk (Leading House for Iran–Switzerland Science and Technology Collaboration), and the Vice President of the International Association of Landscape Ecology–IALE. Since August 2018, Dr. Fakheran has been appointed as Director of IUT International. In addition, to facilitating daily administrative processes, the main topics of activities during her tenure have been in three areas of Structural Changes, International Outreaching and Public Relations, and Expanding Swiss Desk's activities. Pursuing the University membership in CERN in

active cooperation with the Acting President of International Affairs and Technology Infrastructure, facilitating the recruitment of Adjunct Professors, establishing the International Grants Office, Council of Faculties Internationalization, and Student Committee are also among the measures taken during her tenure.

For the next two years, Dr. Fakheran is planning to continue her activities as before and step forward in terms of structural reform of IUT- International, expand the collaboration with universities abroad, both virtually and classically by increasing the number of international students, hold joint webinars and workshops, establish cooperation desks for other target countries, such as China, Germany, Italy, Turkey, and Persian-language countries, empower the IUT International think-tank by creating an international advisory committee from experienced professors, develop scientific collaboration with large international companies in cooperation with the IUT Office of Industrial Relations and the management of Entrepreneurship and Commercialization Center, develop cooperation with international organizations/ associations through representative offices in Tehran as well as Geneva, improve cooperation with UNESCO, and implement the SDGs in higher education.

IUT international would like to express its sincere thanks to the IUT President, Prof. Dr. Abtahi, and former IUT president Prof. Dr. S. Modarres Hashemi, Prof. Dr. Omid, all of the Vice-Presidents and those who have cooperated with us, supported and inspired us through these years.

Main topic activities of IUT International during Summer 2018-2020

Structural changes

- Improving ISCO to IUT International Center
- Completing the human resources of the center using official and contractual bodies
- Int. Grants Office
- Students Committee
- Council of Faculties internationalization

Outreaching and Public Relations

- Starting social network activities through virtual networks
- Releasing the University's electronic newsletter as the country's first university publishing a newsletter in English
- Formation of the consortium of Isfahan Universities Network (IUN)
- Joining the alliance of top 5 Iranian Technical universities (UT5)

Expanding Swiss Desk's activities

- Defining different instruments to support joint researches such as Mobility grants, Seed money grants and Bridging grants which are funded by both Iran and Switzerland
- Holding mutual scientific tours in both countries
- Holding a one-week seminar on Spatial Planning, participated by a large number of Iranian and Swiss scientists and students
- Holding seminar and workshop in Switzerland
- Pursuing the university's membership in CERN



Reassignment of Prof. Mahmoud Tabrizchi as the Iranian Representative in the SESAME Council.

Prof. Mahmoud Tabrizchi, the faculty member of Isfahan University of Technology from the Faculty of Chemistry, has been reassigned as the Iranian representative in the SESAME Council (**Synchrotron Radiation Center for Research and Applied Sciences in the Middle East**) for the next two years. This membership has been renewed due to the extensive knowledge as well as the five-year history of his presence in this council as Iran's representative to make this project more known to Iranian researchers.

SESAME Project is an international scientific and technical collaboration project for using a Synchrotron device in the Middle East which has been founded by cooperation of several Asian, European, and American countries aiming at developing Synchrotron accelerator technology and its applications in the Middle East. This international project was launched under UNESCO surveillance in 2002 with a model similar to that of CERN in Europe, and since 2003 onwards, it has been operating as an independent international institution. <https://www.sesame.org.jo>



Winner of Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship



Swiss Embassy Iran

Congratulations to the 3 Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship winners from Sistan & Baluchestan, Hamedan, and Mazandaran. They will continue their research in Zurich, Lugano, and Geneva, soon!



Mr. Alireza Esmaili, one of the IUT PhD students in Natural Resources, has received an Excellent Scholarship from the Swiss Government. He participated in a project co-supervised by **Dr. Eisa Ebrahimi** from IUT and **Dr. Bruder** from the University of **SUPSI**, Switzerland, and was supported by the Leading House of Iran and Switzerland. He has won the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship by setting up a project in collaboration with the Swiss partner. Mr. Esmaili took advantage of an opportunity introduced in the Conference on *Joint Research Opportunities of Iran and Switzerland*, which was held in May 2018 at IUT. The sincere supports of Dr. Ebrahimi, his supervisor, and Dr. Andre Bruder have been significant in this success. He was invited to the Swiss Embassy in Tehran to celebrate this achievement. In this regard and to benefit from Mr. Esmaili's experiences, the International Scientific Cooperation Center will have an Instagram live with him about his achievement soon.



Dr. Eisa Ebrahimi

IUT in Ranking: 2nd and 3rd in Three Criteria

Isfahan University of Technology has been ranked 2nd among universities in the country in a recent evaluation, designed for universities, research institutes, and science and technology parks. This ranking is conducted by the Evaluation Center for International Scientific Cooperation at the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology for the academic year 2018-19. This evaluation was carried out in terms of the number of joint research collaborations, including joint research projects, and supervision of doctoral dissertations. IUT has been also ranked 2nd among the country's technological universities in terms of winning international grants, the number of articles extracted from Web of Science 2019, and ranked 3rd in terms of normalized rankings in the country.



Ministry of Science, Research and Technology
Center for International Scientific Studies and Collaboration (CISSC)



Dr. Mostafa Hassanalain

Another honor by IUT ALUMNI

Dr. Mostafa Hassanalain, one of the distinguished IUT Alumni and currently an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at New Mexico Tech, has recently achieved the New Mexico Tech Student Government Association Outstanding Faculty Member Award for 2019-2020.

Dr. Hassanalain completed his BSc and first MSc degrees from **Isfahan University of Technology** in 2013 and earned his PhD and second MSc in Mechanical Engineering from New Mexico State University. He has been researching on different types of drones (UAV/MAV/NAV/PAV) for 10 years. Flapping wing micro and nano air vehicles, tilt-rotor and tilt-wing drones, Morphing drones, space and marine drones, separation and swarming flight of micro drones, flight dynamics,

biomimetics, fluid-structure interaction, and optimization are his main research interests. He and his team are currently studying various aspects of drones and Smart Cities. The website SaverDrone.com has published a listicle titled "5 Ways COVID-19 is Making Drone Delivery the New Normal." The posting includes a summary on Dr. Mostafa Hassanalain's research related to drones and their effects on future "Smart Cities." The coronavirus pandemic has brought on increasing use of drones in both public health and private business sectors.

For more information about his research and achievements please visit: <https://iscoweb.iut.ac.ir/en/node/786>



Holding Webinars: Faculty of Textile Engineering:

The Faculty of Textile Engineering hosted a lecture on "**Sustainable fungal textiles from food waste**" by **Dr. Akram Zamani**, an associate professor of the Department of Resource Recovery and Building Technology, University of Borås Sweden, on June 15th, 2020.



Dr. Lale Ghasemi—the faculty Internationalization

Coordinator — organized this webinar.

IUT and University of Borås have mutual MOU since 2004 and have a rich history of joint research collaboration in the different fields of study.



Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering:

"Data Segmentation" presented by **Prof. Christian Igel**, a professor at DIKV, the Department of Computer Science at University of Copenhagen, on June 30th, 2020. This webinar held with a number of faculty members and students who were interested in the field of Deep learning.

The University of Copenhagen is one of the IUT partner universities since 2012. **The Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering** hosted a webinar on "**1,2,3: U Nets for Medical**".



UNIVERSITY OF
COPENHAGEN



This webinar was organized by **Dr. Mohammad Hosein Manshaei**, **Dr. Seyed Jalal Zahabi**, the ECE faculty Internationalization Coordinators, and **Dr. Elham Mahmoudzadeh**.

Webinar
I N V I T E

1, 2, 3: U-Nets for Medical
Data Segmentation



Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Isfahan University of Technology

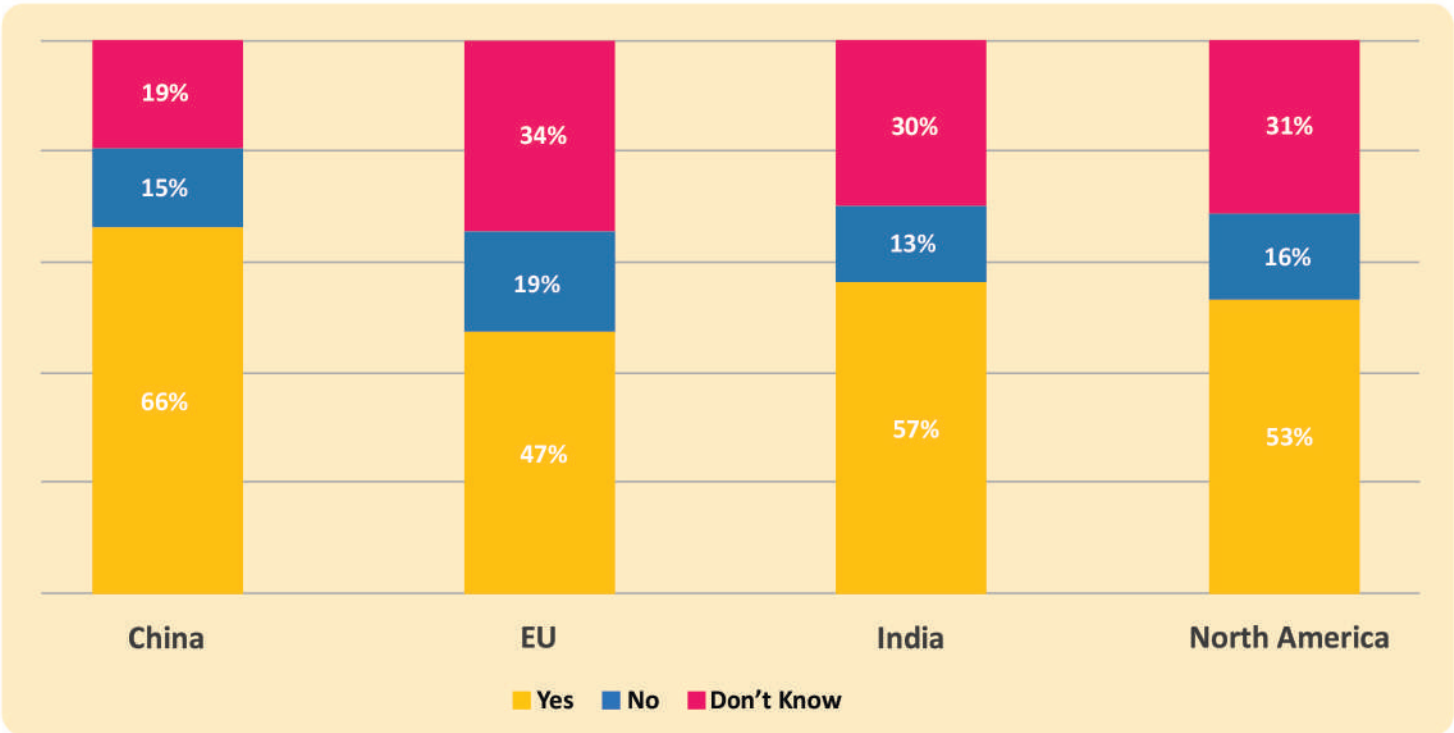


The coronavirus, or COVID-19, has radically transformed sectors across the globe, and higher education has been no exception to this pandemic. From closing campuses to investing in online learning and supporting isolating students and staff, universities have quickly responded and adapted to this new normal.

Looking towards the next academic year, many institutions are concerned about their international student recruitment in this restricted global climate. Concerns around financial sustainability and recruiting international students were prominent, with universities stressing the uncertainty that restricts any planning they might undertake.

Has the coronavirus affected your plans to study abroad?

Prospective international students were asked whether their plans to study abroad were impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. Overwhelmingly, many of the respondents had been impacted by the crisis and had changed their plans as a result.



Which of the following do you think universities should be doing to limit the impact of the coronavirus?

To get an idea of what prospective international students expect from institutions, they have been asked what initiatives they think institutions should implement to limit the impact of the coronavirus. Respondents were allowed to select multiple options, from moving more of their lectures online to ensuring access to dedicated health professionals (e.g. nurses) for students, establishing a 24-hour helpline for students, ensuring that hand gel is widely available on campus, and holding lectures and seminars in larger rooms to minimize contact. While some of these options may no longer apply to those institutions that have closed campus facilities, it's interesting to see what prospective international students expect from universities.

From China 56%, from EU area 72%, from India 58% and from North America 64% of students chose the option of moving more of their lectures online over the other options.

This could be an alert. As the coronavirus has affected the international as well as local prospective students, the universities need to change their approach of recruiting students by taking and applying new policies and strategies. Being aware of the international students' needs and concerns during the coronavirus crisis is a substantial help in staying on the path of providing services for these students.

Adopted from: [How COVID-19 is Impacting Prospective International Students Across the Globe](#)

<https://www.qs.com/contact/>



UNESCO's direct contribution to nine SDGs

UNESCO contributes significantly to nine SDGs through an integrated approach, drawing on all of its areas of specialized expertise and in close partnership with UN entities and partners from the public and private sectors. The universities across the globe should set their activities towards these goals based on their local priorities.



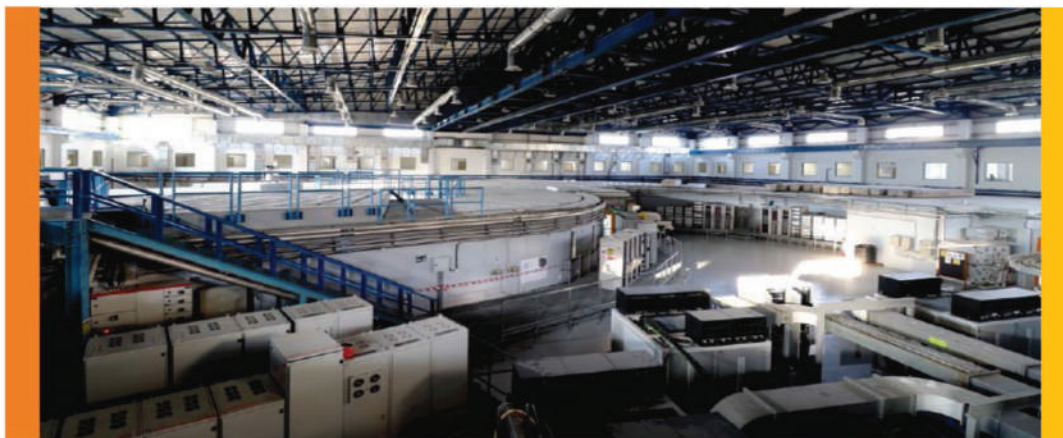
As stated in UNESCO's mission statement, the organization also contributes to SDG 1 on eradicating poverty through its work to promote quality education and skills development to help people obtain decent work; harness science, technology for poverty reduction and sustainable development.

UNESCO also aims to reduce inequalities (SDG 10) through its work to ensure that all learners have access to quality education at all levels; reduce the science and knowledge gaps between and within countries.

UNESCO promotes an integrated approach to achieving these 9 SDGs and focuses on the following Means of Implementation as described in SDG_17: mobilizing additional financial resources for developing countries.

Adopted from: UNESCO Task Force on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

<http://en.unesco.org/sdgs>



HESEB TWINNING PROGRAMME

Our aim: to support the user community from SESAME members in gaining knowledge and experience with soft X-ray synchrotron use during a joint beamtime with an experienced user group at a Helmholtz synchrotron.

REGISTER AS TWINNING GUEST

- You are a **researcher from a university or a research institution in a SESAME member**, i.e. in Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine and Turkey.
- You would like to use **soft X-rays from a synchrotron for your research**, but you are **lacking the necessary experience**.

Register ►



REGISTER AS TWINNING HOST

- You are an **experienced soft X-ray user** who is willing to **offer mentoring and support** for future soft X-ray users from SESAME members by **hosting** this new user during **one of your beamtimes at a German synchrotron**.
- You are ready to **share your experience** and to **offer consultancy for proposal drafting** and, if applicable, for **setting up a beamtime at a soft x-ray beamline, potentially at HESEB**.

Register ►



<https://www.hzdr.de/db/Cms?pOid=58977&pNid=0>
 heseb@hzdr.de

We are in this together - and we will get through this, together.



The #UnitedNations is working around the clock to help everyone, everywhere in the fight against #COVID19.

Everyone has a role to

play in protecting yourself and others:

- Maintain physical distance.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Don't touch your face.
- Share facts, not rumours.
- Show kindness & solidarity.

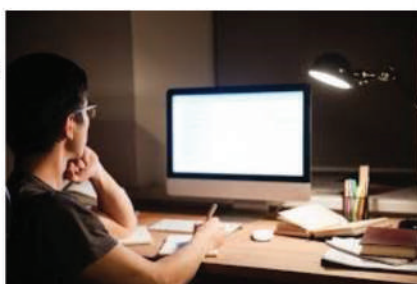


How to reduce stress & prepare for exams?

Take the time to plan

To help reduce stress and ensure that you're as organized as you can be, learn more about planning and looking after yourself and about staying focused in order to be as ready for the exam as you can be.

- Prepare a study plan and goals for each day / week.
- Create a study space that is comfortable, quiet, well lit, organized, and has no distractions nearby.
- Make sure you have everything you need for each study session.



Look after yourself

Self care is especially important when you have a big demand in your life.

- Build activities you enjoy and that bring your stress levels down into your study plan;
- Don't get hungry before or while studying; Remember to get some exercise every day.

Rest when you need to

- Work out what times of day you have the most energy and plan to study then.
- Don't study more than 40-60 mins without a short break with a 5 minute break or a glass of water.

Relaxation is important, especially before bed, to slow the brain activity down. Try some slow, deep breathing, a shower or a bath, herbal tea etc.

Stay focused

- Say "no" to parties during the weeks close to the exams. This will help to keep you refreshed and energised.

When studying, switch your phone and email off to stop the distractions.

Try to keep a focus on your health and wellbeing

Be prepared

Read/ write everything three times as this also helps to commit the info to memory.

Use your trial exam results to focus on what you need to study.

Use previous exam papers to get a feel for what to expect.

Ask friends what they are doing that is helping with their study or friends who did it last year.

You need to study within 24 hours of the exam on that subject to retain more info.

Write things in coloured texta that you have trouble remembering (such as names and dates) and blu-tack to your toilet wall/door. Sounds funny, but it really works!

Day of the exam

- Do your usual routine, for example, have what you normally eat for breakfast.
- Take some water and a healthy snack (if allowed) to the exam.

Good luck!

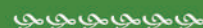
<https://headspace.org.au/young-people/how-to-reduce-stress-and-prepare-for-exams/>

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IUT International Newsletter is a periodic E-newsletter to be distribute among IUT students and staff. Your constructive comments and suggestions are most welcomed.

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