

Now, college students can intern with IIT and IIM profs

Initiative by IIT-Gn, IIM-A Will Benefit Grads, Undergrads From Across India

Chitra Unnithan | TNN

Ahmedabad: If you thought that only a chosen few had the privilege of learning from distinguished professors at the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) or Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), there is good news. Two premier institutes based in Gujarat—IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) and IIM Ahmedabad (IIM-A) are now giving students across the country an opportunity to work with their faculty members, who are reputed for their exceptional calibre in research.

IIT-Gn has begun offering a summer internship research programme, where about 35 students from other colleges will get to work with an IIT-Gn faculty during the course of their internship.

Narain Pindoriya, faculty-in-charge for the programme, said, "We used to send our students abroad and to the industry for internships. So, we thought of offering a good opportunity to students interested in research to explore the excellent laboratory



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at IIT-Gn along with the expertise of the faculty. In future, if we have a good collaboration with the industry these students can also benefit from campus and industry internship."

The programme strives to bring together engineering and non-engineering students from prominent institutions across the country on the IIT-Gn campus. It will allow the interns to participate in on-going research projects and undergo mentorship by IIT faculty.

Like most internships, students will be offered a stipend and accommodation on campus. Summer Research Internships for the summer of 2013 will be announced in January or February 2013, when interested students will be expected to identify and contact an IIT-Gn faculty, whose research interests them.

Similarly, Centre For Innovation, Incubation & entrepreneurship (CIIE) at IIM-A will conduct a pilot test in offering students from various colleges an opportunity to be mentored by IIM-A faculty for rural projects. Students from good colleges, mainly based in Ahmedabad, will be offered a six month internship, where they will be assigned six rural districts in Gujarat for study. The students will be guided by IIM-A faculty and will also get to meet angel investors and venture capitalists during the project.

Shashank Rastogi, director-operations at CIIE, said, "CIIE has a large base of rural entrepreneurs and we are largely an urban organisation. The internship will be our attempt to create inroads into rural India and create relationships that CIIE and its social entrepreneurs can leverage."