

OFFICE OF THE DEAN, COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

No.CTE/SPARC/..7.99
Dated:25th October 2018

SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration)

EVOLUTION OF SPARC

In order to facilitate fundamental and socially relevant research in India, lot of emphasis is being laid to strengthen collaboration between Indian Research groups with Top research groups in the world, so that India scientists and students can interact with the finest minds in the world. With this objective in mind, **MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India)** in 2015 launched **GIAN (Global Initiative of Academic Networks)**, under which an International academician can visit an Indian Institute for two weeks to offer a course. The response was overwhelming, as apart from the course the Indian students and academicians got a chance to interact with the International Faculty. In the meantime, **DST (Department of Science & Technology, Government of India)** came up with another unique program in 2017, **VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research)**, under which an International Scientist of Repute can spend longer duration in the country. However, it was realized that maximum benefit of an collaboration can be harvested only when the Indian Research group, particularly the students can be physically exposed to the world class research facilities and equipment available with Top international groups in their respective Institutes. As of now, such travel opportunities are limited, as there are no formal program that generously support student visit for longer periods.

SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) proposed to fill up this void in the collaboration eco system, as it not only funds for long term visit by the International Faculty (2 to 8 months) but would also fund the travel and sustenance of Indian students at the University/ Institute of the International collaborator. The program aims at exposing large number of young students, the torch bearers of the future generation, to state of art developments in science, thereby increasing the number of highly trained scientific manpower in the country, as well as significantly enhance the visibility of Indian Science and Scientists in the world map of highly competitive cutting edge science. It is expected that some of the joint ideas would not only lead to breakthrough in science, but would also result in sustainable technological products that will be beneficial to mankind at large, in addition to fulfilling the need of India.

VISION – THE WAY AHEAD

The major outcome of the SPARC initiative will be strong research collaboration between Indian Research groups with top research group in the leading Universities of the world, in areas that are at the cutting edge of science or with direct social relevance to the mankind, specifically India. The strong joint research should lead to tangible result that should include large number of high quality research publications, solution to key national and international problems, development of niche courses, high quality text books and research monographs, imbibing of best practices from top international academicians and researchers, strong bilateral cooperation, and improved world reputation and ranking of Indian Institutions.

SCHEME DETAILS

The Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world from 28 selected nations to jointly solve problems of national and/or international relevance.

The scheme proposes to enable productive academic cooperation by supporting the following critical components that can catalyze impact making research, namely:

- Visits and long-term stay of top international faculty / researchers in Indian institutions to pursue teaching and research
- Visits by Indian students for training and experimentation in premier laboratories worldwide
- Joint development of niche courses, world-class books and monographs, translatable patents, demonstrable technologies or action research outcomes and products
- Consolidation of Bilateral cooperation through academic and research partnerships through Indo-X Workshops in India
- Publication, Dissemination and Visibility through a high profile annual international Conference in India

The expected outcomes include tangible results in terms of large quantity of high quality research publications, solution to key national and international problems, development of niche courses, high quality text books and research monographs, imbibing of best practices from top international academicians and researchers, strong bilateral cooperation, and improved world reputation and ranking of Indian Institutions.

Proposals are invited from the faculty of the institute/university in the prescribed format in different disciplines, which is available on www.sparc.iitkgp.ac.in

Last date for submission of online proposals at the institute is **November 12, 2018**.

Further, if any clarifications are required, kindly visit the website www.sparc.iitkgp.ac.in or contact the **SPARC Institutional Coordinator (IC)**

Dr H J Shiva Prasad, Professor of Civil Engineering, College of Technology
Email: sptce@gbpuat-tech.ac.in / h.j.s.prasad@gmail.com
Mobile No: 9719245303 / 8449859593.

H C Sharma
25-10-18
(H C Sharma)

Dean
Dean Tech.

1. All Heads of the Dept. of College of Tech. for circulation among the faculty members.
2. All Deans of the University information and circulation.
3. SPARC Institutional Coordinator (IC), Dr H J Shiva Prasad, Professor of Civil Engineering for necessary action.
4. P.S. to Vice Chancellor for kind information of the Hon. Vice Chancellor