

Meghe Group Exploring new horizons in education

A team led by Dr. Avichal Kapur, Dean (QA) and Advisor NYSS visited US from 1st June to 13th June 2009.

Other members of the team were Dr. M.M. Raghuwanshi, Principal, NYSS College of Engineering and Research, Dr. A.V. Kale, Principal SVSS College of Engineering and Research, Dr. V.H. Tatvawadi, Principal, Datta Meghe Institute of Engineering Technology and Research, Dr. A.M. Pande, Dean (PGS & R) YCCE, Prof. B.Y. Bagde, Dean (SA) YCCE, Prof. S.P. Untawale, HOD (Mechanical) YCCE, Prof. P.K. Dakhole, HOD (Electronics) YCCE, Prof. M.S. Pawar, Asstt. Professor, Electronics Dept., Prof. P.L. Zade, Asstt. Professor, Electronics Dept., Prof. S.D. Kamble, Asstt. Professor, Computer Technology Dept.

The team visited Arizona State University (ASU), Phoenix, Intel Corporation Phoenix, University of South California (USC), Los Angeles, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and Jet Propulsion Lab of NASA. from 1-13 June 2009. Dr. Kapur also visited NIU at Chicago.

During 1-4th June the team visited ASU. Prof. Avichal Kapur and other members interacted with officials of the Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering on various issues like collaborations, joint research, faculty exchange and student exchange. ASU officials included Jeff Goss, Associate Dean and Executive Director of Global Outreach and Extended Education and Claudia Navarro, Director of Global outreach. On behalf of MGI Dr. Kapur signed intent for collaboration document with the ASU.

Prof. Jack Rutherford of ASU delivered a lecture on "Global Capstone Design Project at ASU". Possibility of including MGI students in this project is being explored. The team also visited the "Decision Theatre", it is a research facility and decision lab for exploring and understanding decision making in certain systems.

During the tour the team visited Intel Corporation. MGI institutes have good chance of participating in Intel funded programmes. The team visited centre for

Ecogenomics in the Biodesign institute at ASU. It is the best Biomedical facility in the world. The institute has agreed to explore possibilities of collaboration in the emerging areas with the Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences at Wardha.

On 8th June the team visited University of Southern California (USC)

The team interacted with senior faculty and visited various facilities at USC.

The MGI team then visited Viterbi Museum, Biomedical Micro-systems lab., Centre for Robotics and Embedded systems, M.C. Gill foundation for Composites Centre, Graphics lab., Rocketary lab., Nanotechnology research lab. and Info lab.

On 9th June the team visited the University of California, Los Angeles campus (UCLA).

The team interacted with officials of the UCLA and visited California Nano-systems Institute.

On 10th June the team visited NASA Jet Propulsion laboratory. The team was made aware of various NASA missions including details of Voyager 1 & Voyager 2. The team was taken to launch controlling cabin and was explained about the controls. Then the team visited clean room where assembling of next voyager mission is currently underway.

Major achievements during the visit include (1) Students from MGI Institutes will not be charged fees for attending summer programmes at the universities visited. (2) Faculty visiting these universities will be given

free accommodation. (3) Students of MGI institutes can participate in Capstone Design Programme and Intel Programmes. (4) Faculty from these universities can be co-guides for Ph.D. students registered in YCCE. (5) Faculty members from these universities will deliver lectures through videoconferencing for the benefit of students from MGI institutes.

The team returned with rich knowledge of research areas, research facilities, academics, examination systems and industry institute interaction.

