

Immersive Summer Research Experience for BIT Students (BIT-ISRE)

Birla Institute of Technology (BIT), Mesra, Ranchi initiated Immersive Summer Research Experience of 8 weeks duration for BIT Students (BIT-ISRE) in select U.S. Universities. This was available to the engineering branches such as CSE / IT / ECE / EEE / Mechanical / Production / Chemical / Bioengineering / Civil.

Under this program, eleven students from BIT joined Summer Research Program at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), Chicago.



These students were hosted by Illinois Institute of Technology (Illinois Tech)'s Armour R&D Summer Research Immersion Program in Chicago for the first time.

The 2017 program, which began May 22, in Illinois Tech's Armour College of Engineering, is an Immersive eight-week introduction to R&D experience in which undergraduate students work individually or in small teams with an IIT, Chicago faculty mentor on a research project and earn academic credits that apply to their degrees at BIT, Mesra (BITM) under the ISRE-BIT Program.

Illinois Tech's Armour R&D Summer Immersion, launched in 2013, gives each student an in-depth experience in research in their area of interest and culminates in the Armour R&D Expo in which the students must present their research findings to Armour faculty and alumni, Illinois Tech administration, industry partners, and other interested parties. Some of the research projects also result in publication of papers authored by participating students and faculty.

The BIT students' participation in this program was inspired by the Vision of Excellence conceived and anchored by its Chairman Shri CK Birla. The BIT Vice Chancellor visited several

US universities including NJIT, Columbia, CMU, Illinois Tech, UC Berkeley and Santa Clara University in Oct.-Nov. 2016 to pursue student and faculty exchange with these universities of which BITM-IIT, Chicago ISRE is the first fruition.

Mr. Madhavan Nayar, a BITM alumnus and president of the BITM Alumni Association-North America (BITMAA-NA), who is also an alumnus, trustee, and member of the executive committee at Illinois Tech, has been the key driver of BITM-Illinois Tech partnership. BIT and BITMAA-NA joined hands for enabling the BIT students' participation in BIT-ISRE at Illinois Tech by providing a scholarship of more than \$4200 to each BITM student with matching grants of US \$2100 each from the GP Birla Scholarship scheme of BIT Mesra and a similar amount from BITMAA-NA.

Contact registrar@bitmesra.ac.in or info@bitmaa-na.org for more information.