

Saxony's first Master with German-Indian double degree

Chemnitz University of Technology seals joint Master's programme and research cooperation with India
University welcomes visitors from Manipal University



Prof. Dr. Arved C. Hübler, director of the Institute for Print and Media Technology; Prof. Dr. Klaus-Jürgen Matthes, rector of Chemnitz University; and the visitors from Manipal University, Brig. Dr. Surjit Singh Pabla and Prof. Dr. Girish Kumar Sharma (from left) are signing the cooperation, which is the basis for Saxony's first Master's programme with a German-Indian double degree, starting this winter semester.
[Photo: Katharina Thehos]

On the occasion of signing the cooperation contract for the joint double degree Master's programme in the field of print and media technology, two representatives of Manipal University, India, visit Chemnitz University of Technology. The guests get to know the university, as well as the business location Chemnitz and the region. The visit also marks the kick-off of the English Master's programme Media Production, starting in winter semester 2008/2009. Chemnitz University's involvement in India is further strengthened by the new project "pmIndia - Linking High Potentials", carried out by the Institute for Print and Media Technology [pmTUC]. The goal of this project is the establishment of an innovation office for research in media technology in Manipal, to further strengthen cooperation with India in education and R&D.

Study programme with double degree

The Master's programme Media Production offers Indian and German students the possibility to study at the respective partner university for one or two semesters and, thereby, get a degree from both universities. "We have to show both the German and the Indian students that it is possible to live and work in a different culture and stress the common grounds we have." With these words Prof. Dr. Arved C. Hübler, director of the pmTUC, confirmed the cooperation contract of July 2008 with the Indian Manipal University on the joint double degree Master's programme. In the course of the two-year engineering programme, the first Chemnitz students will already start their semester abroad at Manipal University in spring 2009. In the following winter semester, the first Manipal students are welcomed at Chemnitz University of Technology.

Innovation office for research

The pmTUC has had contacts with Manipal for some years now. Beside guest lectures of teachers and scientists of both universities and first experiences with student exchange, research cooperations have been initiated. For instance, the pmTUC and Manipal University have been working on a project on "Standardised concepts for the establishment of new newspaper printing plants in India" since this year's February. During the project, ten Chemnitz students were given the opportunity to look "beyond their own noses" into the other country. During a workshop in Manipal they met with ten Indian students to discuss their prepared project parts and develop common solutions.

In the next step, the pmTUC opens an innovation office for media technological research in Manipal as part of the project "pmIndia - Linking High Potentials". This new project, which is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF), emphasises the pmTUC's international orientation and opens up many possibilities: "We can compensate the shortage of qualified, young people with good Indian students, we can broaden our research activities and we offer the German printing press and supplier industry additional networks and contacts on the Indian market", says Prof. Hübler. In a first step, the chancellor of Chemnitz University of Technology, Eberhard Alles, a research assistant of the pmTUC and the BMBF are taking an exploratory trip to India to present Germany as a strong research location. The project is part of the BMBF initiative "Realisation of marketing actions in the target country India".

Visitors from India

Between September 5th and 11th, 2008, Prof. Dr. Girish Kumar Sharma and Brig. Dr. Surjit Singh Pabla visit Chemnitz University of Technology for the first time. Besides a tour of the Institute for Print and Media Technology and some other institutes of the university, the highlight of the visit is the reception by the rector of Chemnitz University of Technology, Prof. Dr. Klaus-Jürgen Matthes. Additionally, the guests visit local companies, which are cooperating with Chemnitz University, and are participating in different cultural events, e.g. guided tours of Dresden and Chemnitz.

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