



Creation of the « HERITAGE NETWORK »: first network between India and Europe for education and research cooperation in engineering sciences

Nantes, 24th april 2017

At the initiative of Centrale Nantes, the HERITAGE NETWORK was created in Nantes on April 6th, 2017 during the first HERITAGE network meeting, that brought together 20 representatives (10 Europeans and 10 Indians) from leading European and Indian Universities as founding members.

The HERITAGE NETWORK aims to strengthen Higher Education cooperations (research and training) between Europe and India in the field of Engineering Sciences: exchange of expertise, organization of scientific workshops, joint participation in international projects, implementation of joint training programmes and development of joint research projects and scientific diplomacy.

This network was created as a continuation of the first Erasmus Mundus partnership project WILLPOWER 2009-2013 and then the HERITAGE project 2012-2016, coordinated by Centrale Nantes. HERITAGE¹ project had been intended to be the starting point for a long and fruitful cooperation between the partners of the European Union and India, integrating a sustainable action to transform the HERITAGE project Consortium into a Network after the Grant Agreement.

During the Final meeting of the HERITAGE Project (at IIT Guwahati, India, May 2016), all the partners decided to create the HERITAGE NETWORK. **The first meeting of this HERITAGE NETWORK was held at Centrale Nantes (France) on May 5th and 6th, 2017.**

This research and education network, comprising Higher Educations Institutions from Europe and India aims to

- -Develop the qualifications and skills of men and women in regards to the labour market: develop an open-mindedness and enhance their international experience
- -Develop academic and research exchanges between partners institutions, and foster high level educational programmes in Engineering, Sciences, Design and Technology between Europe and India.
- -Organize yearly workshops on scientific and technical topics of mutual interest.
- -Promote mobility for both students and researchers as well as for academic and administrative staff between Europeans and Indians institutions,
- -Promote bilateral mobility agreements (for courses, thesis work, internships, double degree programmes) among the member universities,
- -Facilitate the creation of joint programmes among European and Indian Institutions in the field of Engineering Sciences Design and Technology.
- -Be a reference for the European and Indian governments and gain influence in higher education and research cooperation internationalization policies.

The first elected President of the HERITAGE NETWORK is Professor Bennis (Director of the International Relations department at Centrale Nantes) and the Vice President is Professor Ravi (Dean of Alumni Affairs and External Relations at ITT Guwahati). The appointed General Secretary is Sabine Vermillard (Director of

¹ The HERITAGE Erasmus Mundus project (2012-2016) enabled 144 Indian undergraduate, graduate and PhD and Post-Doc students as well as Staff to participate in an international experience at the European Heritage partners Institutions for short/long time motilities.

International Development at Centrale Nantes). There are four other members in the steering committee; 2 Europeans (representatives of Warsaw University of Technology, Politecnico di Milano) and 2 Indians (representatives of IIT Madras and NIT Rourkela).

The next network meeting will be held at ITT Madras (Chennai, India) February 6th and 7th, 2018.

HERITAGE NETWORK Members

Europe



Ecole Centrale de Nantes, Nantes,
France



Universidad de Sevilla, (US), Sevilla,
SPAIN



Tallinna Tehnikaülikool, (TTU),
Tallinn, Estonia



Politecnico di Milano, (Polimi),
Milano, Italy



Warsaw University of Technology,
(WUT), Warsaw, Poland



Instituto Superior Técnico (IST),
Lisboa, Portugal



České vysoké učení technické v
Praze, (CTU), Prague, Czech Republic



Cardiff Metropolitan University,
United Kingdom

India



Indian Institute of Technology
Madras, (IITM), Chennai, India



Anna University, Chennai, India



Indian Institute of Science (IISc),
Bangalore, India



Indian Institute of Technology
Bombay (IITB), Mumbai, India



Indian Institute of Technology
Guwahati (IITG), Guwahati, India



Indian Institute of Technology
Kanpur (IITK), Kanpur, India



National Institute of Technology
Warangal (NITW), Warangal,
India



National Institute of Technology
Rourkela (NITR), Rourkela, India

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