

Event Report

Campus to Corporate Industry-Academia Meet 2024

Date: 10th February 2024, Saturday

Time: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Venue: K S Patel GCET Auditorium

Coordinators:

1. Dr. Chetan Sheth
2. Dr. Manan Desai

Principal-In-Charge:

Dr. Kaushik Nath

Presided by:

Er. Shri Bhikhubhai B Patel, Chairman, Charutar Vidya Mandal & President, CVM University

Chief Guest:

Dr. Raksh Vir Jasra, FNAE, Senior Vice President, Reliance Technology Group, Reliance Industries Limited, Vadodara

Guests of Honour:

1. Shri Jagrut Bhatt, CMD, Cipriani Harrison Valves Pvt. Ltd., GIDC, Vitthal Udyognagar
2. Dr. Dharmendra Mandaliya, Joint CEO, SSIP, Gujarat Knowledge Society, Govt. of Gujarat & Professor, LDCE, Ahmedabad

Introduction:

The inaugural "Campus to Corporate: Industry-Academia Meet 2024" was held on Saturday, 10th February 2024, at 10:00 am at K S Patel GCET Auditorium by G H Patel College of Engineering & Technology, A Constituent College of CVM University. Marking a significant milestone in the history of our institution, industry and academia were brought together on a large scale for the first time, showcasing a historic collaboration. Inspired by the visionary insights of our esteemed principal, Dr. Kaushik Nath, the conception of this groundbreaking event was initiated, and under his unwavering guidance and support, it flourished into a beacon of conjunction and innovation. The event aimed at promoting a joint venture between educational institutions and industries to bridge the gap between industry and academia, fostering collaborative research, and enhancing the exchange of knowledge and ideas, ultimately refining the quality of education and employability of students. Various CMDs, CEOs, directors, and other senior officers from diverse industries graced the event, enhancing the exchange of insights and fostering valuable connections. With over 60 companies participating, the event garnered a positive response from stakeholders, providing an enriching platform for impactful networking and fruitful association.

Objective:

The primary objective of the inaugural Industry Academia Meet was to foster and strengthen relationships between academia and industry, providing a dynamic platform for interaction. By aligning education with industry needs, integrating practical training with academic learning, and promoting collaborative research activities, the event aimed to enhance the quality of education and address challenges faced by both sectors. Additionally, the meet sought to identify opportunities for building cohesion and forging partnerships through MOUs. Through interactive panel discussions, participants explored and addressed the challenges hindering effective collaboration between industry and academia, intending to find solutions to drive mutual growth.

Event Details:

Drawing participation from over 60 esteemed companies across diverse sectors, the event showcased a rich tapestry of industry insights and perspectives. The Industry-Academia Meet featured an inaugural ceremony followed by two panel discussions addressing the gap between industry and academia and challenges in core engineering disciplines. Each panel discussion featured six panel members, a moderator, and a rapporteur. These discussions addressed pertinent and contemporary issues, captivating the audience's attention and sparking engaging dialogue among participants. The event also included open-house sessions, Q&A opportunities, and networking over lunch. The insightful panel discussions provided a platform for in-depth exploration of critical topics pertinent to industry-academia collaboration.

Panel Discussion I: Bridging the gap between industry and institute

Panel members	Moderator	Rapporteur
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Sameer Jindal Director, VAVE, M G Motor India Pvt. Ltd. 2. Mr. Himanshu Agarwal Senior Vice President, International Markets. Zydex Industries Pvt. Ltd. 3. Dr. Indrajit N Patel Principal, BVM Engineering College 4. Dr. Sharad Potghan, Vice President, EHS & F (6 Sigma BB), Gujarat Flourochemicals Ltd. 5. Dr. Vithal Kamat Managing Director, Baroda Electric Meters Ltd. 6. Mr. Darshan Purani, Manager, Associate Software Development Manager, Exxat Inc. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Sheel Dholakia, Director, Pintura Coats Pvt. Ltd.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Kavindra Jain, Assistant Professor, GCET</p>

Panel Discussion I, themed "Bridging the Gap Between Industry and Institute," underscored the critical necessity for a collaborative approach between academia and industry to effectively address the rapidly evolving demands of the job market. It emphasized the importance of aligning academic curricula with the dynamic needs of industries, advocating for a shift towards skill-based education over traditional theoretical knowledge. Furthermore, the discussion highlighted the significance of providing students with real-world exposure through internships, live projects, and corporate interactions to better prepare them for the realities of the workplace. Additionally, it emphasized the need for up-skilling faculty members to ensure they are equipped with relevant industry knowledge and experience. By implementing these measures, the successful model aims to facilitate smoother transitions for graduating students into industry roles, enable employers to hire skilled and job-ready individuals, and instill a sense of pride in academic institutions as their students excel in the professional arena.

Panel Discussion II: Challenges in the core engineering disciplines and the way forward

Panel members	Moderator	Rapporteur
1. Mr. Manish Kothari Managing Director, Rhino Machines Pvt. Ltd. 2. Mr. Aayush Velaga Head, Business Development, Cosmos Impex India Pvt. Ltd. 3. Mr. Rohit Gupta Manager, Technical, SRF Limited 4. Mr. Sanjay Mahagaokar Director, R&D and Engineering, Rotomotive Powerdrives India Ltd. 5. Mr. Surendra Varma CEO & Founder, Emgage HRMS 6. Mr. Sushil Kharkwal Head, EHS, Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Yogesh Chauhan, Associate Professor, GCET</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Mitesh Vegad, Associate Professor, GCET</p>

Panel Discussion II revolved around the topic, "Challenges in the core engineering disciplines and way forward" and further illuminated the path toward industry-academia synergy. Emphasis was placed on designing courses with input from industry experts to ensure relevance and effectiveness in meeting industry demands. Moreover, leveraging the expertise of industry professionals for course execution was deemed essential for optimal outcomes. Addressing perceptions around IT/CP versus core engineering branches, the discussion emphasized the importance of dispelling stereotypes and fostering a more balanced perception of career opportunities in engineering. Efforts to cultivate a culture of experiential learning were also emphasized, underscoring the value of hands-on experiences in preparing students for the workforce. Additionally, there was a proposal to appoint industry experts in academia, such as the position of Professor of Practice, to enrich the learning experience with real-world insights and enhance industry-academic collaboration. Overall, these insights underscored the transformative potential of industry-academia synergy in shaping a more holistic and relevant education system capable of meeting the evolving needs of both students and industries.

Suggestions/comments/recommendations from various industries and organisations:

The resounding success of the "Campus to Corporate: Industry-Academia Meet 2024" resonated throughout the auditorium, buoyed by enthusiastic participation and constructive dialogue. Feedback from attendees echoed sentiments of appreciation for the platform's role in fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. Participants lauded the event's potential to catalyse long-term partnerships and enhance the employability of students, underscoring its significance in shaping the future of education and industry integration.

The Industry Academia Meet received both constructive feedback and commendations from participants, reflecting on its successful execution and areas for further enhancement.

- Applaud the excellent program and commend the initiative to bridge the gap between industry and academia, emphasizing the need for mutual collaboration and growth.
- Encourage increased industry interaction with academia to foster ongoing collaboration and knowledge exchange.
- Acknowledge industries offering to impart industry-required skillsets to students, promoting hands-on learning and industry readiness.
- Strengthen focus on problem-solving and application of concepts, empowering students to tackle real-world challenges effectively.
- Enhance course content optimization and provide students with the freedom to design their own courses for personalized learning experiences.
- Amplify student involvement in discussions and interactions with panelists and industrialists, fostering inclusivity and engagement.
- Foster constant interactions and implement a robust feedback mechanism for more productive outcomes, facilitating continuous improvement.
- Ensure discussions address real and practical issues, grounding conversations in current needs and challenges faced by both sectors.
- Recognize the success of the event in meeting industry expectations, providing valuable insights, and fostering collaboration through conducive interactions.

In conclusion, the inaugural Industry-Academia Meet marked a significant milestone in the journey towards bridging the gap between academia and industry. The event laid the groundwork for transformative partnerships and initiatives aimed at nurturing a future-ready workforce. By addressing the highlighted areas for improvement and building upon the positive feedback, future editions of the event can further enhance its impact. As stakeholders continue to navigate the dynamic landscape of education and employment, the bonds forged at this seminal event will facilitate innovation, growth, and prosperity in the years to come.

Participating Companies:

- Reliance Industries Ltd.
- M G Motor India Pvt. Ltd.
- General Electric
- eInfochips
- L&T - Energy & Power
- Zomato
- ABB India Ltd.
- Grasim Industries Ltd.
- Exxat, Inc.
- L&T- Energy Hydrocarbon Engineering
- IDMC Limited
- Gujarat Knowledge Society, Govt. of Gujarat
- Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd
- Zydex Industries Pvt. Ltd.
- Atreyo Research & Development LLP
- Cosmos Impex India Pvt. Ltd.
- Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited
- Anupam Industries Ltd.
- Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd.
- Cipriani Harrison Valves Pvt. Ltd.
- J.K.Fertilizers
- Rotomotive Powerdrives India Ltd.
- Maharshi Group
- SRF Ltd.
- Precise Engineers
- CerboTech Education Pvt. Ltd.
- Royal Electronics Sales & Services
- Pintura Coats Pvt. Ltd.
- Grey Scale Design Studio
- Lonsen Kiri Chemical Industries Ltd.
- PLUGA Pumps and Motors Pvt. Ltd.
- Bhavya Container & Estate Company
- Inteintra Projects LLP
- Shimmer Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.
- BVM Engineering College
- Technomec Roll Manufacturing Co. Pvt. Ltd.
- STP Limited
- Transpek Industry Limited
- Energy Machines
- Wellnest Health Monitoring Pvt. Ltd.
- Jeavio India Pvt. Ltd.
- Yali Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
- Hi-MAK Pvt. Ltd.
- KHS Machinery Pvt. Ltd.
- PlusInfosys
- System Level Solutions
- DynaTech Systems Pvt. Ltd.
- Nilmay System
- TechElecon Pvt. Ltd.
- B C Instruments India Pvt. Ltd.
- Shree Vallabh Alloy Stell Castings
- NIFA Electronics Pvt. Ltd.
- Rhino Machines Pvt. Ltd.
- Engibrains Technology
- Micro Systems
- Innovic Technology
- Baroda Electric Meters Ltd.
- Ekaantik Software Solutions (OPC) Pvt. Ltd.
- BitGreen Technolabz Pvt. Ltd.
- Emgage HRMS
- Shreejicharan Electronics
- Microcircuits Technology
- Adeptstation Ventures Pvt. Ltd.
- Scaledge Technology
- Saral Controls

Photographs:







