

# ANNUAL REPORT

Office of Scientific & International Cooperation

## **Advance Your Knowledge, Advance Your Power**



AMIR GOLROO Director of International and Scientific Cooperation At the Office of International Affairs at Amirkabir University of Technology, we are investing for the future. Transcending national boundaries and reaching out to global competence and engagement will help gratify this generation's aspirations for national advancements and international recognition. We aim to contribute to the academic and economic success and development of our country by connecting outstanding talent worldwide to AUT's competent students and researchers. To this end, our present attention is towards research and industrial partnership. Faculty members and students can participate in the various programs and opportunities that this office suggests, such as carrying out joint projects, participating in science tours and internships, gaining a dual degree or joining student exchange programs.

To this day, our efforts have led to notable achievements and success for the university and its members; Hosting international delegates from reputable universities, receiving funds and grants on research/ industrial projects, and hosting foreign students for summer internship are only some results from our staff members' honest and hard work.

Internationalization is a continuous process that will lead us to become a third generation university. Our objective and future goal is to direct our academia towards trans-disciplinary research in order to exploit knowledge and become a multicultural, cosmopolitan university that will promote entrepreneurship and develop open connections with global counterparts.

We hope you enjoy reading this report which reflects our global activities that have helped Amirkabir University of Technology to be among the best in the world.

With warm regards,

nir Golroo

# TALK TO US



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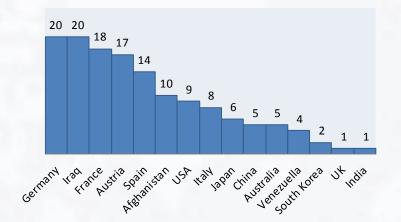
**OUR SERVICES** 

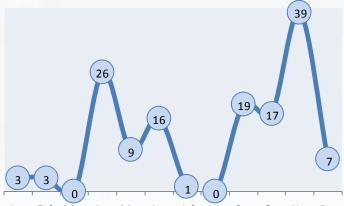
This report is brought to you by the Office of Scientific and International Cooperation staff: Sepideh Oladzad, Maryam Bizar, Nafiseh Pishbin, Zohreh Dehghani, Amir Mohammad Abhary

## CONNECTING AUT WITH THE WORLD AND THE WORLD WITH AUT

#### **Delegates' Countries**

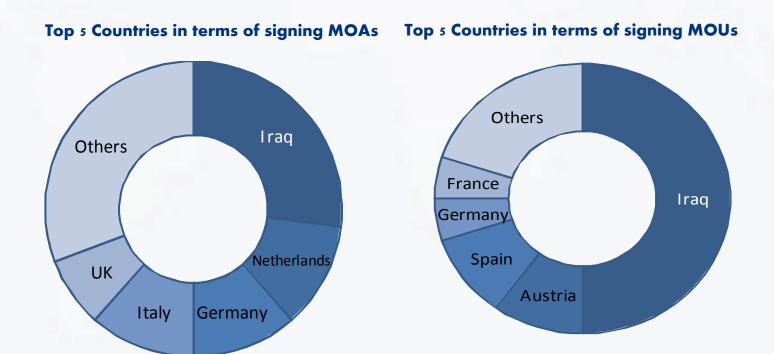






Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

In 2015, we hosted more than 140 delegates from 15 countries. We received esteemed delegates such as the Italian, Iraqi and Afghan Ministers of Science and Education. 20 Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) and 26 Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) in term of dual degree, exchange of students, adjunct professors, etc. were signed and implemented as the result of these meetings revealing the success of our negotiations with our foreign counterparts.



## CONNECTING AUT WITH THE WORLD AND THE WORLD WITH AUT

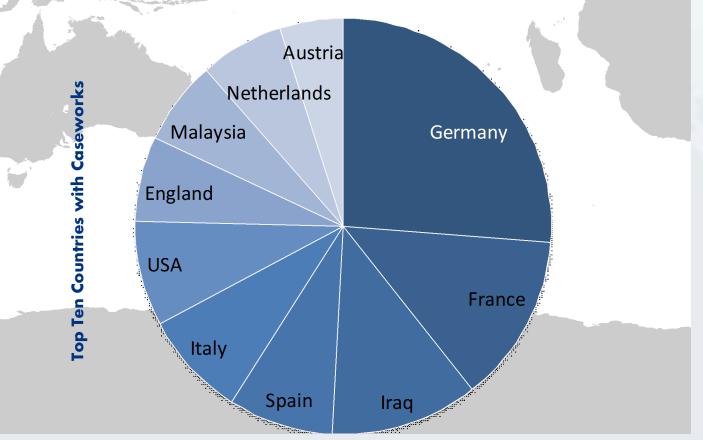
AUT believes that face-to-face negotiations are the most effective and efficient way to initiate international cooperation. Therefore, AUT planned for variety of visits during 2015. Among the list of countries visiting AUT in 2015, are Italy, Germany, Netherland, Spain, France, Austria, Turkey, Kurdistan, and Iraq. The institutes and universities include, from Germany, the German Research Foundation (DFG), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Fraunhofer Society, Max Planck Society, Technical University of Munich, Stuttgart University, From the Netherland, Technical University of Delft, Maastricht School of Management, From France, Ecole Polytechnic, ENSAM (ParisTech), Paris Descartes, from Austria, Salzburg Business School, from Spain, University of Santiago de Compostela, from Italy, University of Turin, from Turkey, Istanbul Aydin University, from Iraq, University of Kerbala, University of Kufa, University of Basrah, Islamic University College, and from Kurdistan, Salahaddin University, University of Jihan, and University of Soran.

GERMANY Total 7 visits IRAQ Total 5 visits FRANCE Total 4 visits THE NETHERLAND

**Top 5 Countries Visited** 

Total 2 visits

**SPAIN** Total 1 visits



## CONNECTING AUT WITH THE WORLD AND THE WORLD WITH AUT

#### **Top Conference Destinations for AUT Staff**



#### **Top Sabbatical Destinations for AUT Staff**

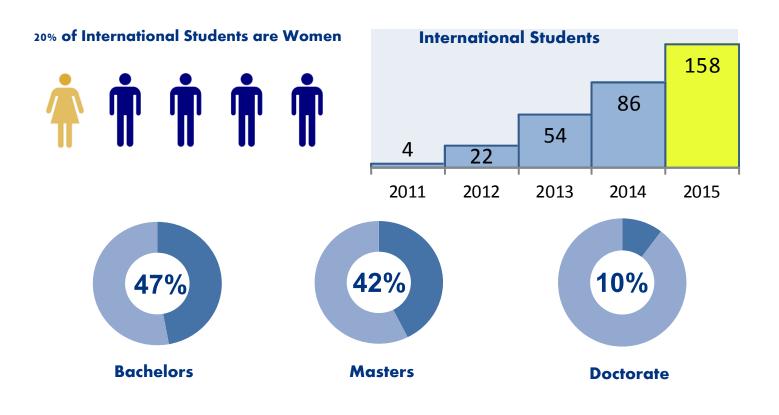


## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TRENDS

#### **International Students Citizenship**

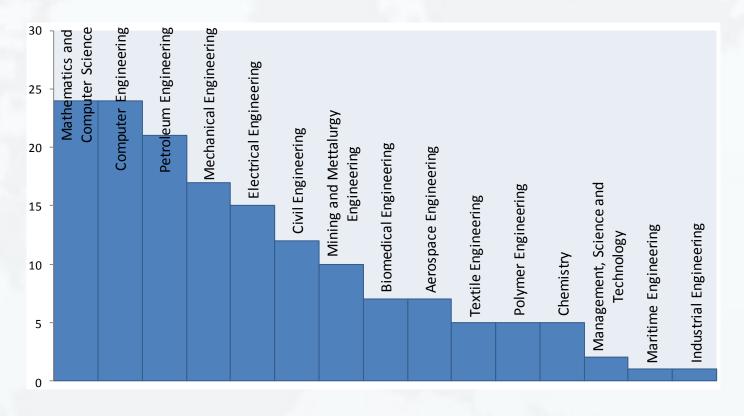


There are 158 international students enrolled and studied at AUT in fall 2015 from 12 countries. The number and distribution of the students on the basis of their countries are illustrated in the

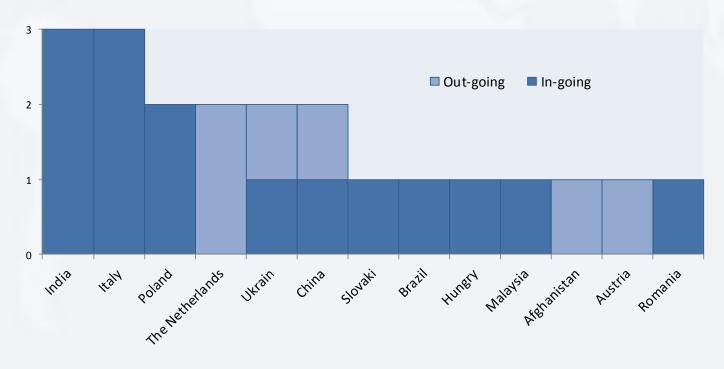


## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TRENDS

#### Top most popular majors among international students



#### Top most popular international Internship for students



## **STUDY ABROAD**

#### Seminars

In 2015, the Office of Scientific and International Affairs held different seminars for students, researchers, and faculty members included not limited to"Studying opportunities in Japan funded by Monbusho", "Opportunities offered by DAAD," "Study and Research in Singapore," "Research and Innovation in Germany," and "study and Research in France" are the seminars that were held to introduce available opportunities to study abroad.

#### Internship

Students can enjoy from a short-term international experience in the general or scientific field of research. During this period of time, students gain valuable experience at a university, institution, or company. This program may last between one to three months. At the end of this program, students will receive a certificate of successfully passing the internship and can accomplished all assigned tasks. AUT has actively cooperated with AEISEC which is an international internship organization to send and receive international students for internship. In total, there have been 30 students enjoyed from international internship from which 15 and 6 students were out-going and ingoing students.



#### **Exchange of Students**

Exchange of students not only plays a key role in transferring knowledge but it also provides an appropriate base for exchange of culture and language. This program may last between one to three semesters and students can take courses at a host university. AUT has been actively involved in the Erasmus Mundus program called MARHABA which has been mainly focused on exchange of students. Several students have been joined in this program. Moreover, AUT has signed several MO-As for exchange of students with different universities around the globe as follows:

- Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea
- Santiago de Compostela, Spain
- Passau University, Germany
- Lodz university of Technology, Poland

#### **Dual Degrees**

One of the most cooperative types of programs is a Dual degree program. This program aims at splitting the degree into two halves. That is, students spend half of the program in each partner university. Both partners offer a separate degree to students which can be at Bachelor, Masters, and PhD levels. Students have been actively involved in the PhD Dual Degree with cooperation of following universities, after AUT has signed cooperative Dual Degree agreements with them. Each university has so far hosted one AUT student.

- University of Leuven, Belgium
- University of Groningen, Netherland
- Radboud University, Netherland
- Torino University, Italy
- University of Burgundy, France

## LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS



#### Erasmus Mundus Second Cohort-MARHABA

In 2015, AUT ran the Erasmus Mundus – Second Cohort - Marhaba program based on the MOA signed in 2013. The Erasmus Mundus mobility program aims to enhance the quality of higher education and connect students from different cultures through exchange programs and academic cooperation. Last year, Ms. Erfaneh Behjat successfully obtained a scholarship through this program. For the 2016 call for applications, more than 30 candidates from AUT completed their application; the results will be announced in May, 2016.

#### **Erasmus Plus**

AUT is a partner of the list of the powerful consortium that American University of Armenia (AUA) pulled together for the Erasmus Plus project. The project is on "Green, Inclusive, and Resilient (GIR) Operations, Buildings and Cities." It will be primarily a curriculum development project. This project includes members from Partner Countries of Armenia, Georgia, and Iran and Programme Countries of Estonia, Germany, Spain, and UK.

The Erasmus+ programme aims to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising Education, Training, and Youth work. The seven year programme will have a budget of €14.7 billion; a 40% increase compared to current spending levels, reflecting the EU's commitment to investing in these areas.

## LINKAGES AND PARTNERSHIPS



### Association of Universities for Textile Eurasian University (AUTEX)

After Dr. Parviz Nourpanah and Dr. Shahram Arbab's efforts and continued support we have been able to become a member of Association of Universities for Textiles (AUTEX). AUTEX founded in 1994, is an organization that facilitates co-operation amongst members in high level textile education and research. Currently it has 34 members from 28 countries.

#### **Exhibition Participation**

The EURASIA Higher Education Summit took place in Istanbul. The event featured an international education themed exhibition and a conference to expand the knowledge, networks and collaboration opportunities for the participants. The summit hosted 189 universities and institution such as University of Berkeley, DAAD, etc.

#### Union (Euras) membership

AUT is honored to be a member of the University Union Eurasian (Euras). Launched in 2008, EURAS is the Union of Eurasian Universities and higher education institutions of the region. EURAS is a non-profit international association, promoting cooperation among over 85 universities from all around Europe, Asia and the Middle East, working for the global advancement of educational standards in the Eurasian region.

EURAS connects universities and higher education institutions belonging to different geo-political and cultural backgrounds and seeks ways to enhance their dialogue and exchange of best practices.

## **Success Story**



#### **Collaboration with University of Passau**

Dr. Mehran Soleiman Fallah, associate professor from the department of Computer Engineering and Information Technology, has joined the Office of the Scientific and International Cooperation in a collaboration with Dr. Possega from the University of Passau, since February 2015. They started to negotiate on different ways of collaboration which resulted in an Students Exchange Agreement. After applying to DAAD for funding their cooperation agreement, they received funds for three exchange students per year.

#### **Participating in a Science Tour**

Dr. Mahdi Madjid Pour, assistant professor from the department of Management, Science and Technology and Dr. Mehdi Ghatee, assistant professor from the department of mathematics and computer science, applied for the science tour 2016 "Research in Germany" organized by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and successfully received the scholarship. The tour was open to researchers engaged in sustainable urban development and the scholarship included all program-related costs in Germany.





#### An equipment subsidy

Dr. Mohammad Jafar Kermani, associated professor from department of Mechanical Engineering applied for a Georg Forster Research Fellowship from Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) and he was awarded the fellowship. He spent 18 months at Center for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research in Ulm.

## **Our Services**

## How we serve the international cooperation

#### **Visa Facilitation**

Office of Scientific and International Cooperation is responsible to provide the best facilities for both students (at all levels and disciplines) and faculty members to be able to apply for visa. This office offers all documentations required to apply for visa and support the application of students and staff to obtain visa.

#### Advising

Office of Scientific and International Cooperation is ready to advise students and faculty members ready to start any international activity. This office has trained personal that would willingly set time to explain different services and facilities that AUT members can use to internationalize their activities. Advisors would guide students and faculty members on admission, student mobility and exchange, international grants and scholarships, international partnerships, study abroad programs.

#### **Orientation**

International students admitted to AUT will be required to participate in an orientation organized by the Office of Scientific and International Cooperation. This orientation will introduce AUT's campus and resources to the new students and allow them to discover student involvement opportunities. Students will tour the campus with an Orientation Leader while having fun and making friends!

#### **Dual Degree Program**

Office of Scientific and International Cooperation is in charge of establishing and organizing Dual Degree programs. Students in these programs will study half their degree at their host institution and the other half at a guest institution. At the same time this office overseas the acceptance and registration of students participating in these programs and evaluates their experience to ensure the best quality possible.

#### **Exchange of Students**

AUT students as well as foreign students can benefit from an exchange program which provides an appropriate base for exchange of culture and language. Office of Scientific and International Cooperation facilitates exchange programs by signing agreements with top international schools as well as joining international exchange programs. The advisors in this office have professional knowledge that can help guide students and faculty members to make use of all exchange programs.

> NO MATTER WHAT, AUT ALWAYS OFFERS A WELCOME WITH OPEN ARMS

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