

Report On International Experience Program - IEP 2023



Mentor:

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About IEP:

The International Experience Program (IEP) is a step forward from Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad in the direction of becoming an “International Innovative University”. The program was initiated in 2011. Currently, IEP is one of the largest student mobility programs offered by the technological universities of India. Since the inception of the program, more than 2200 students have benefited through IEP. GTU has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with more than 35 renowned universities in the USA, Canada, Europe, Russia, Asia and Africa. GTU students go for studies at foreign universities for 6 to 8 weeks during the summer. It is a comprehensive international experience program designed exclusively for GTU students across the branches of Engineering, Architecture, Management (MBA), Pharmacy and Computer Science (MCA).

Under this program, students’ study two subjects in their final year by attending a certification program in emerging areas at a foreign university. Students also appear in the internal examination, continuous evaluation and external examination conducted by foreign professors at foreign universities. If a student achieves passing grades in the exams, he/she is given the waiver for appearing in the internal and external examination of GTU for respective subjects. Apart from the above-mentioned subject-learning experience, students also prepare the projects and case studies as decided by the foreign professors. They also visit the companies to enhance their understanding of the work culture of the foreign country in their respective fields. Apart from the academic activities students also get exposure to the socio-cultural environment by visiting popular places of the country.

Student Details and Courses Offered at Laurentian University, Sudbury, Canada

This year, 2023, a total of 65 students from engineering (41) and pharmacy (24) reported pursuing their two courses at Laurentian University, Sudbury, Canada during the period of 5th July to 15th August 2023.

In Engineering, the following courses are offered:

- Mobile Computing & Wireless Communication (Dr Ratvinder Grewal, Professor LU Canada)
- Machine Learning (Dr Kalpdram Passi, Professor LU Canada)

While, In Pharmacy, courses are offered as below:

- Computer-Aided Drug Design (Dr Sujintha Tharmalingam & Dr Chris McTiernan)
- Novel Drug Delivery System (Dr Abdul Omri, Professor LU Canada)

Week-01: 5th July 2023 to 7th July 2023:

- The students arrived in two groups at Laurentian University, Sudbury, Canada. Group-1 reported on 5th July 2023 while group-2 reported on 6th July 2023 respectively.
- Room allocated to students once they arrived.
- Students and a mentor, warmly welcomed by Dr Kalpdrum Passi at the LU Campus.
- The orientation session of the first group was scheduled on 6th July while for the second group, it was scheduled on 7th July 2023 to aware the students about various rules and regulations, campus information and accommodation facilities.
- On 6th and 7th July 2023, course lecture sessions were held during the morning slot from 9.00 AM to 12.00 PM while the evening slot from 2.00 PM to 6.30 PM.
- Lunch time is 1.00 PM to 2.00 PM.



Laurentian University Campus View

Week-02: 8th July 2023 to 14th July 2023:

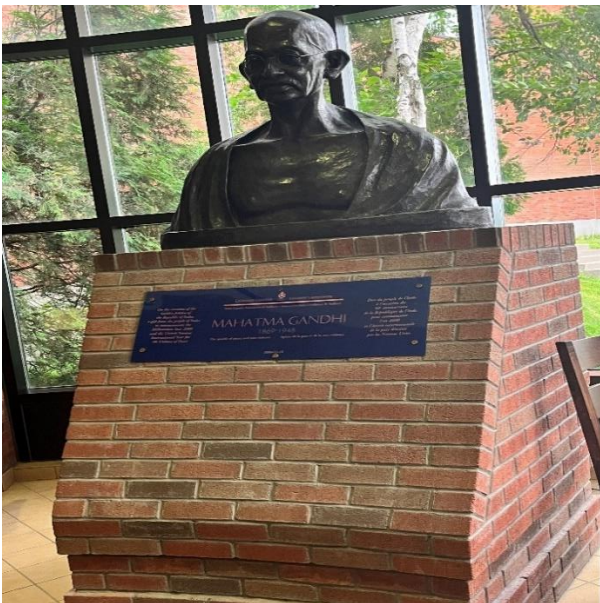
- During the 8th and 9th of July, 2023 (Saturday and Sunday), students enjoyed the holiday and explored the campus amenities and visited the nearby shopping centres.
- From 10th July – 14th July 2023, regular lecture sessions were held and students attended the same.



01. LU Classroom-01



02. LU Classroom-01



03. LU Library- Point of Peace



04. LU Campus

Week-03: 15th July 2023 to 21st July 2023:

- Laurentian University planned a trip to Wonderland, which is a premier destination in Ontario for thrills, fun, and world-class entertainment. On 15th July 2023, buses departed from Laurentian University Residence at 5.00 AM and reached Wonderland at 11:00 AM. Students enjoyed Experiencing fun, and thrills and making lifelong memories with friends at this four-season amusement park. The whole day was spent at the wonderland and returned to Hotel Embassy Suites by Hilton, Toronto.
- On the second day, 16th July, 2023, departed from the hotel at 8:00 AM and reached the Downtown at 8.45 AM. At Downtown, students visited various tourist places including the CN tower and nearby attractions. Buses arrived back in Laurentian residence at midnight.
- From 17th July – 21st July 2023, regular lecture sessions were held and students attended the same.



Week-04: 22nd July 2023 to 28th July 2023:

- From 22nd July – 28th July 2023, regular lecture sessions were held and students attended the same.
- On the 22nd of July, Gujarat Garba night was planned (GARBA NIGHT) at the Alumni Hall of the university.
- During this week, mid-term examinations were conducted including the presentations on the various assigned topics in groups.
- Students also took advantage of the library and campus facilities.



Garba Night



Residence



Library



Library



Campus View

Week-05: 29th July 2023 to 4th August 2023:

- On the 29th and 30th of July 2023, LU authority scheduled a visit to Niagra waterfall visit for the students. On 29th July, buses left at 5:00 AM morning and reached Niagra Waterfall around 11:00 AM. The whole day students enjoyed the beautiful view of the fall and did shopping at nearby outlets. On the second day, around 4:00 PM, buses left for Toronto City, where visited the holy place BAPS Swaminarayan mandir and left for the university at 9:00 PM after taking dinner. Reached LU at 2:00 AM.
- From 31st July – 4th August 2023, regular lecture sessions were held and students attended the same.



Niagra Waterfall View



Niagra Waterfall View



BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir Toronto



BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir Toronto

Week-06: 5th August, 2023 to 11th August 2023:

- From 5th August – 11th August 2023, regular lecture sessions were held and students attended the same.
- During this week, students' presentations and assessments of their course assignments were scheduled.
- Student demonstrated their outcomes in the form of projects and seminars.

Week-07: 12th August, 2023 to 14th August 2023:

- On 12th August and 13th August, written examinations were scheduled for the students by the respective course coordinators.
- On 13th August 2023, the IEP program ends with a lot of academic achievements and new academic motivations for the students.
- On 14th August 2023, the first group of students left the LU at 5:00 AM Morning while the second group left the LU around 12.30 PM for the Toronto airport.
- From the Toronto airport, the flights for India are scheduled. Students reached home on 15th August and 16th August respectively.

Concluding remark:

In conclusion, our international experience program (IEP) scheduled by the Gujarat Technological University with Laurentian University, Sudbury Canada has been an enlightening and enriching experience that has broadened our horizons and deepened our understanding of diverse cultures, academic practices, and global perspectives. As we return to our home institutions, let us carry forward the knowledge and insights gained during this journey, fostering collaborations, sharing ideas, and contributing to the advancement of education and research on a global scale. The memories and connections forged on this tour will serve as a constant reminder of the importance of cross-cultural learning and the role we all play in shaping a more interconnected and collaborative academic community.

I heartily thank the Director, Department of International Relations, Registrar's office, and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Gujarat Technological University for providing an opportunity for such a wonderful academic experience abroad. Also thanks to the administration of Laurentian University and Prof Kalpdram Passi, Prof Grewal, Prof Omri, and their team for their valuable academic support, accommodation, and related hospitality during the whole program.

Prof S D Panchal
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