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IIMA & IIMC to organize Conference on Management Education: The Road Ahead

IIMA, July 20, 2011: The Conference on Management Education: The Road Ahead will be held from July 22 to 23, 2011 at the IIMA Campus. The Conference is being jointly organized by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA) and Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (IIMC). More than 50 participants are expected to attend.

Prof Samir K Barua, Director, IIMA and Prof. Shekhar Chaudhuri, Director, IIMC would inaugurate the conference at 9.00 am on July 22, 2011.

Background

India has the largest number of management schools in the world. The number of management graduates passing out of these schools is also perhaps the largest in the world. In view of the significant changes in the environment in which organizations would function in the future, it is imperative to examine the manner in which management education is being imparted in India. The conference proposes to bring together leaders in management education for a two-day conclave to discuss various facets of management education so as to make the education imparted more relevant to the needs of emerging economies. The conference is expected to be followed by several short conferences on specific themes that would emerge from the discussions on which in-depth deliberations are required. The attempt would be to distil recommendations for change based on the collective wisdom of participants in the conference to make management education more effective in serving the needs of the society in the years to come.

The Conference Team

The conference is being organized by the pioneering management schools in the country, IIMA and IIMC. The discussions would be led by faculty teams from the two institutes as well as faculty from US business schools.

IIMA

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Themes for Discussion

While the format for discussions would be open ended, whereby the issues that would be discussed would essentially be decided by the participants, it is proposed to structure the discussions along the following themes on which some empirical findings would be presented:

- What are the emerging needs of the practicing world? What changes would they like to see in the curriculum and the philosophy underlying management education in the country? The discussions would be based on a presentation to be made on the basis of a study that would be carried out before the conference.
- What are the changes in curriculum and processes that are being done in management schools in India? What has been the experience of the management schools with respect to the changes they have experimented with? The discussions would be based on presentation to be made on the basis of a study that would be carried out before the conference.
- What are the changes in curriculum, processes and philosophy underlying management education in some of the leading business schools? How relevant are those innovations and changes to the needs in the Indian context? The discussions would be based on the path-breaking study that has been done by three professors from the Harvard Business School. The study is documented in the book *Rethinking the MBA*.

Expected Output from the Conference

The discussions in the conference would be brought out in the proceedings of the conference. The sessions would also be video-recorded. The idea would be to disseminate the outputs widely so as to start a national debate on what needs to be done to revamp management education so that it becomes more relevant and responsive to the emerging needs of the nation.

Invitation:

Media persons are cordially invited for the conference inaugural session as per below details:

Date: July 22, 2011 (Friday)
Time: 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m.
Venue: Classroom #2, IMDC, IIMA New Campus

Please find attached the Conference schedule.

For more details, please contact Prof. Vijaya Sherry Chand, IIMA
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Thank you.