

2nd IPRS Conference

IIM AHMEDABAD



29 September 2012

Ahmedabad

The Second Conference on the Indian Placement Reporting Standards was held on 29th September 2012 at IIM Ahmedabad. The Indian Placement Reporting Standards (IPRS) aims to provide transparency and believability in placement reports. Currently, 27 B-schools have adopted the IPRS (For more details, please refer to <http://www.iimahd.ernet.in/iprs/members.php>).

The objective of the conference was to share with all stakeholders, the experiences in implementing the IPRS at member institutions and the learnings thereof. Invitations for the conference were sent to 177 B-schools, 137 recruiters and 15 media and ranking agencies. A total of 37 participants from 30 B-schools attended the conference along with 5 media houses and ranking agencies, and 1 recruiter.

Four institutes which had published their placement reports as per the IPRS, shared their experiences and learnings with the rest of the participants. These institutes included IIM Ahmedabad, S P Jain Institute of Management Research, Symbiosis Centre for Management and HRD, and Sahyadri Institute of Management Studies. The conference also witnessed presentations from stakeholders like media houses (Pagalguy.com). Prof. T.V.Rao, faculty at IIMA, talked about the value of transparency for B-schools and recruiters. In his address, Prof. Samir Barua, director of IIMA urged media houses and ranking agencies to take the lead and encourage the adoption of IPRS across Indian B-schools.

Based on the learnings of the institutes which have published placement reports as per the IPRS, several proposals for modifications of the standards were discussed. These proposals would now be shared electronically with all IPRS signatories for subsequent adoption. Some of the proposals include adoption of timelines for publication of placement reports, simplification of salary reporting heads and standardization of the audit protocol in terms of identification of documents which constitute verifiable proofs of employment.

Prof. Saral Mukherjee, Coordinator of the IPRS initiative said, “B-schools must practice what they preach and follow standards like the IPRS or develop their own standards. Any institute which neither follows the IPRS nor invests time and resources to develop its own standards should be concerned about the message that it is sending out to stakeholders like recruiters, current students and prospective students. We are committed to not just fine tuning the IPRS based on implementation experiences but also handhold and support B-schools in their implementation journey.”

Prof. Kirti Sharda, Chairperson of the Placement Committee at IIM Ahmedabad remarked, “IIMA is deeply committed to the IPRS initiative and what it stands for – accuracy, transparency and accountability. The standard is going to see increased acceptance from recruiters and B-schools alike and will become a benchmark for excellence in the near future.”

Prof. Abbasali Gabula, Deputy Director of External Relations at SP Jain Institute of Management Research added, “IPRS is a very crucial initiative of IIMA and we at SPJIMR fully endorse and support this activity. We wish more institutes come forward and be a part of this effort. We also request all media and ranking agencies to promote the efforts of the institutes who wish to bring transparency in the reporting of placements.”