Improving Academy-Industry Collaboration in Engineering

INDUSTRY 4.0

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Aligarh Muslim University
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Invited Talk

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2022 IEEE President-Elect

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Let us make IEEE a more successful and resilient global technical organization

With support from a broad spectrum of IEEE members, I have been elected as the 2022 IEEE President-Elect. I am looking forward to working with IEEE members in all 10 regions of the world. I will begin serving as IEEE President on 1 January 2023.

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Introduction

- The current competitive environment requires **industry** to innovate at a fast pace to deliver new products and services to meet the demands of consumers.
- **Some Industries** are struggling to attain a competitive edge in this global market fostered by new economies of scale.
- **Academy-Industry Collaboration (AIC)** has become a pervasive topic as an imperative instrument to overcome these organizational challenges.
- The influence of the **Digital Revolution** at the personal and organizational levels is changing socioeconomic aspects and the way of interoperation and collaboration among individuals and enterprises.

https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/JIUC-09-2019-0016/full/html

This presentation discusses the need and advantages of **Academy–Industry Collaboration (AIC)** and some possible ways to facilitate and establish this collaboration.

Key Aspects in a Successful Academy–Industry Collaboration (AIC)

From the **universities**' perspective: **1)** academic leadership, **2)** focus on long-term strategic partnerships with flexibility and **3)** shared vision and strategy to achieve the goal are important factors playing a role in the success of a collaboration with industry.

Universities must involve people with networking and managerial skills to attract industry partners.

Academics with industry background are an added advantage as they are expected to be more willing to cross boundaries and network with people beyond their area of expertise.

From the University perspective

Universities need to redefine their mission, and collaboration with industry needs to be included as an important part of the role of research universities.

There is an emphasis on **universities**' actions at the administrative level to overcome the barriers related to university–industry collaboration and improve their potential to succeed.

For **universities**, importance of policies in sustaining collaboration is recognized, and four 'policy targets' have been identified to overcome some of the barriers to AIC: **1)** long-term development of industrially relevant academic R&D resources, **2)** improvement of communication between university and industry, **3)** reduction of the financial/material costs of interaction and the resolution of institutional conflicts and **4)** filling role gaps at the university–industry interface.

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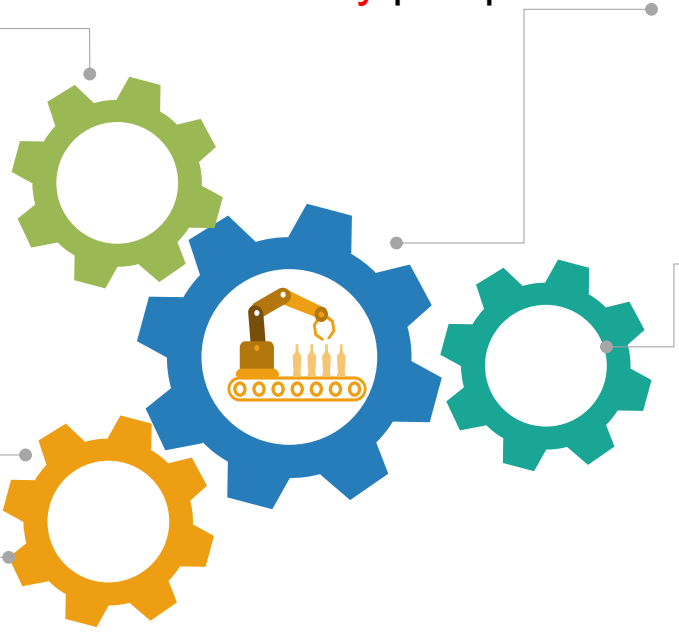
Key Aspects in a Successful Academy–Industry Collaboration (AIC)

From the industry perspective

- On the **industry side**, a strong commitment leading to a continued interest in the project during its development stages and in its results is a significant factor for fostering successful collaboration.
- It is expected to result in extensive participation from **industry** personnel in establishing the research agenda followed by reviewing the research progress and results.
- Consideration of projects by corporate as highly useful in practice. The confidence of the **industrial partner** in the expertise of the academic team and strong interest of the corporate in utilizing the outcomes of the project are conclusive factors for the success of a collaboration.



- For the successful transfer of knowledge and technology, **industrial partners** should have the internal capability to absorb the research fully and transform it into marketable products. It is further facilitated by the presence of industrial personnel having a level of research sophistication matching with that of the university.
- Another perspective to efforts for effective collaboration is the identification of **1)** problem selection, **2)** teamwork, **3)** process management and **4)** information dissemination as the key elements in building effective relationships between the **university** and the **industry**.

University and Industry contribute as complementary elements to the collaborative venture.

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Collaborative Framework - 1

This framework considers several aspects of the variety of interactions between University and Industry.

Understand the Variety of Interactions

It is very important to understand the various kinds of interactions or relationships that are possible between universities and industry.

Identify the Stakeholders

Observing the bigger picture of collaboration indicates the presence of several stakeholders.

Understand the 'Why' – Identify the motivation

Universities and industry have invariably different motivations for collaborating. It varies from problem-solving, resource-sharing or information/people access to skills development through education. It is important to identify motivations and common areas.

Identify & Appoint Suitable People & Involve Leadership

Universities should identify key university staff & faculty suitable for interactions.

Ensure Basic Partnership Characteristics

Stakeholders should identify a win-win situation and agree upon it and work under an agreed framework, ensure a long-term commitment.

Establish Efficient Communication

Interpersonal communication is a critical factor in the success of a relationship.

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Collaborative Framework - 2

This framework considers several aspects of the variety of interactions between University and Industry.

Strengthen the Dissemination Strategy

Universities must work towards strengthening their dissemination strategy and to using elements of marketing for sharing the research results.

Address IP Concerns

It is advisable that the value of a partnership should be seen in terms of other benefits rather than getting hung up on intellectual property (IP).

Adopt Policies to Encourage/facilitate Collaboration

Successful collaborations need to be encouraged and supported by policy interventions.

Focus on Social Capital Resources

Social capital resources include trust, mutual obligations, common understanding, access to information and opportunities.

Setup Rewards and Incentives

A new system of incentives should be created in universities to recognize the efforts of the academics participating in partnerships with industry.

Alumni Association

Universities need to maintain connection with their graduating students who would work in industry or become an entrepreneur in future.

Roles of Organizations (e.g., IEEE) and Industrial Revolution (IoT, VR, AR)

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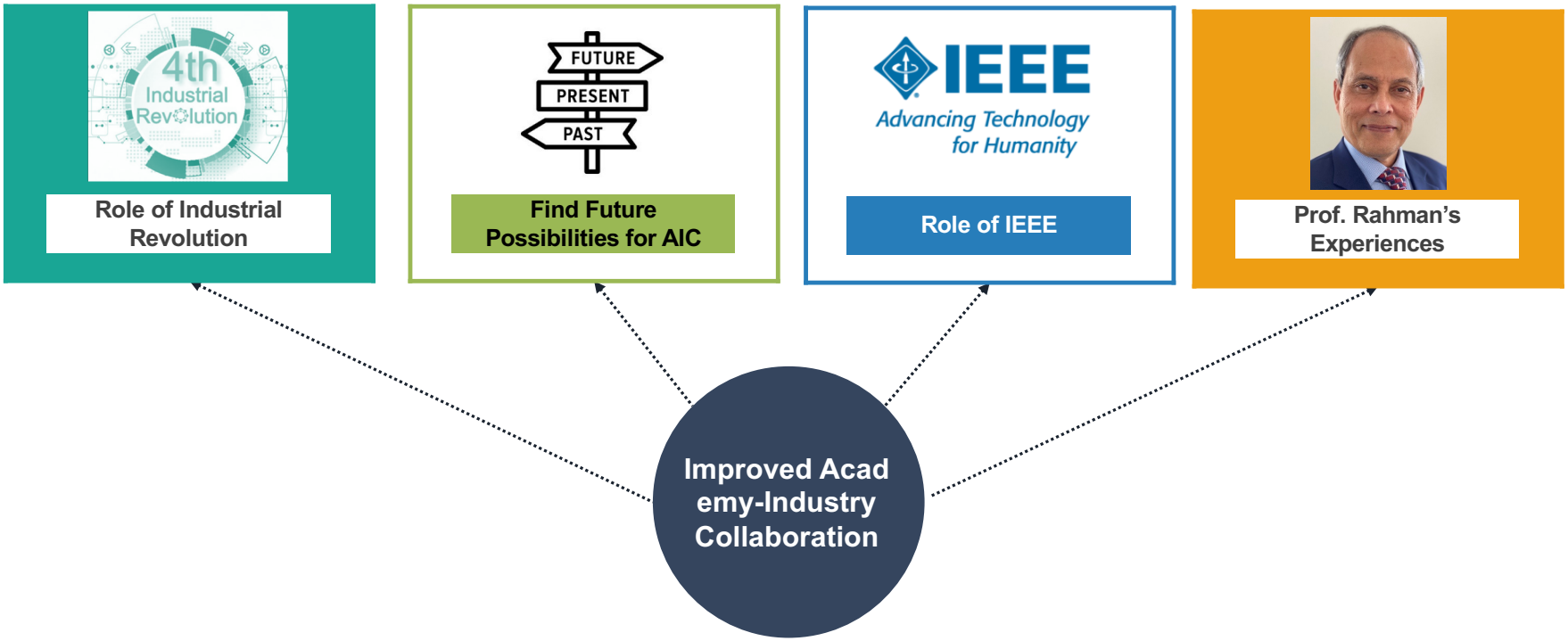
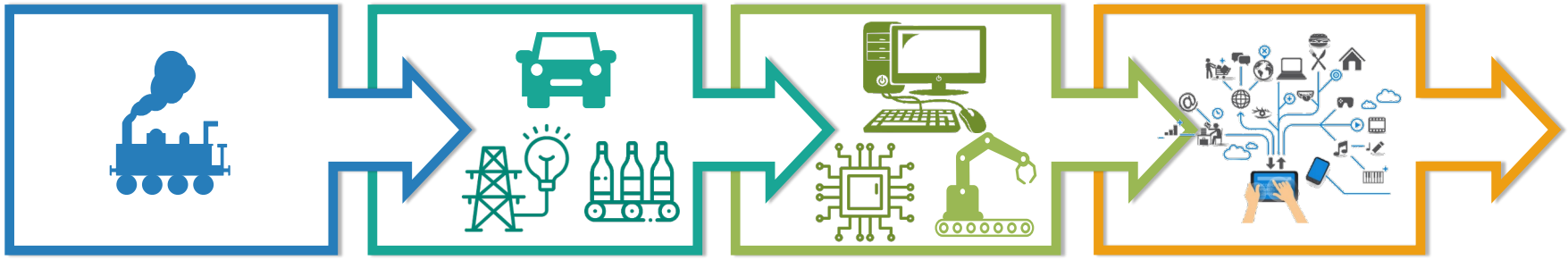
Approaches to Improve Academy-Industry Collaboration (AIC)



Industrial Revolutions



1st Mechanization, Steam Power

2nd Mass Production, Assembly Lines, Electrical Energy

3rd Automation, Computers, and Electronics

4th Cyber-Physical Systems, Intelligent Production by IoT, Cloud Technology, Networks, Big Data

What is 4th Industrial Revolution

- Automation of traditional manufacturing and industrial processes, using modern smart technology.
- Large-scale machine-to-machine communication (M2M) and the internet of things (IoT) help with increased automation, improved communication and self-monitoring.

4th Industrial Revolution Components

Future Possibilities for AIC

Find the updated areas and cutting-edge development for collaboration

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI is a powerful tool that will change and shape future

Big Data

In the recent years we are facing with a large volume of data that contains greater variety, arriving in increasing volumes and with more velocity

Privacy and Cyber-Security Issues (e.g., Fraud Detection)

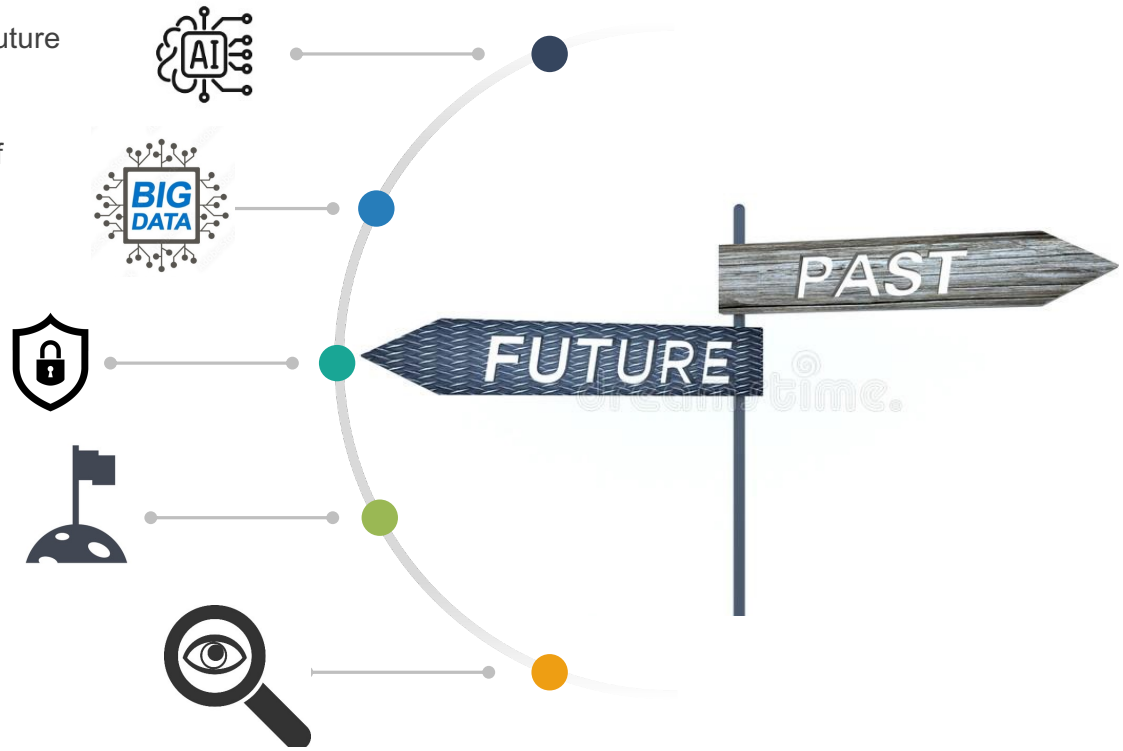
Address challenges related to Authentication, Fraud detection, …

Colonization of Space and Related Issues

Challenges Related to Settling in the Space or other related issues such as Space Microgrid Challenges, …

Explore the Ocean Floor

Develop new technologies to explore the ocean floor



Future Possibilities for AIC, contd.

Find the updated areas and cutting-edge development for collaboration

IoT Platforms

IoT describes physical objects that are embedded with sensors, processing ability, software, and other technologies that connect and exchange data with other devices and systems over the Internet or other communications networks.

Cloud Computing

Employ cloud computing to address challenges in the industry

Unmanned Vehicle

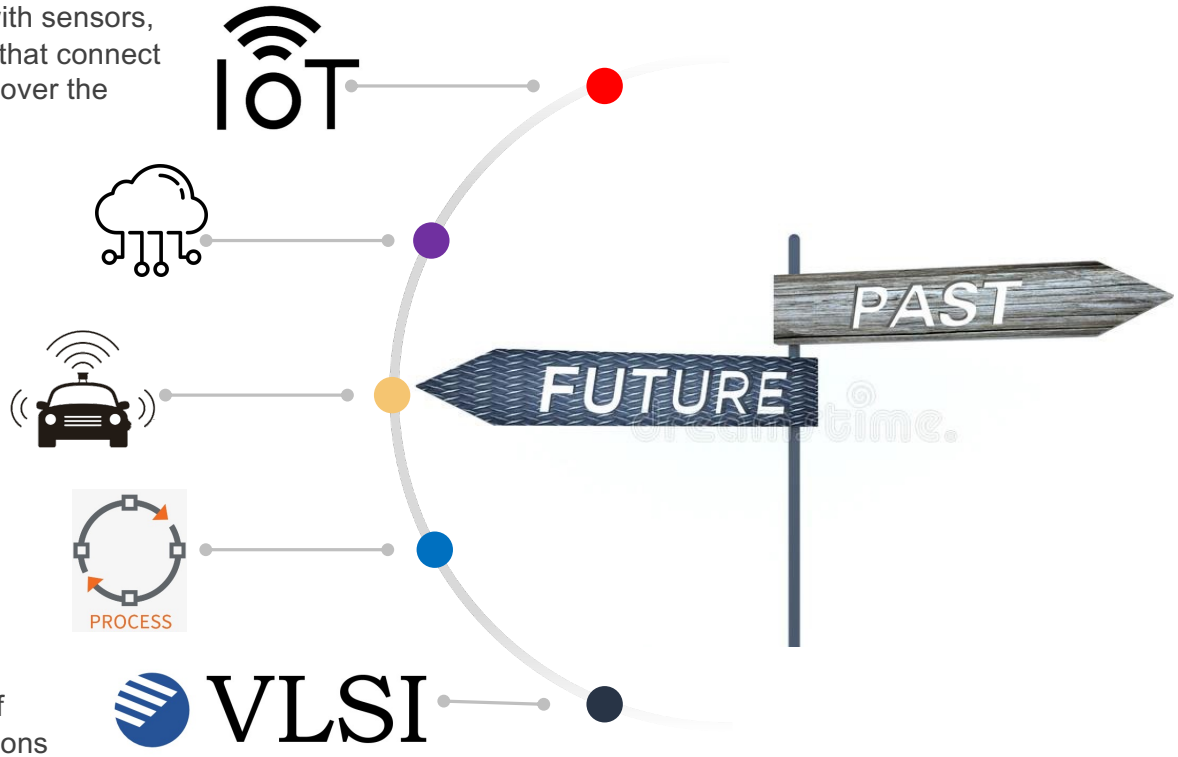
Propose New Ideas related to Unmanned Vehicle

Image Processing

Use of a digital computer to process digital images through an algorithm.

VLSI

Very large-scale integration (VLSI) is the process of creating an integrated circuit (IC) by combining millions of transistors onto a single chip.



Future Possibilities for AIC, contd.

Find the updated areas and cutting-edge development for collaboration

Data Mining

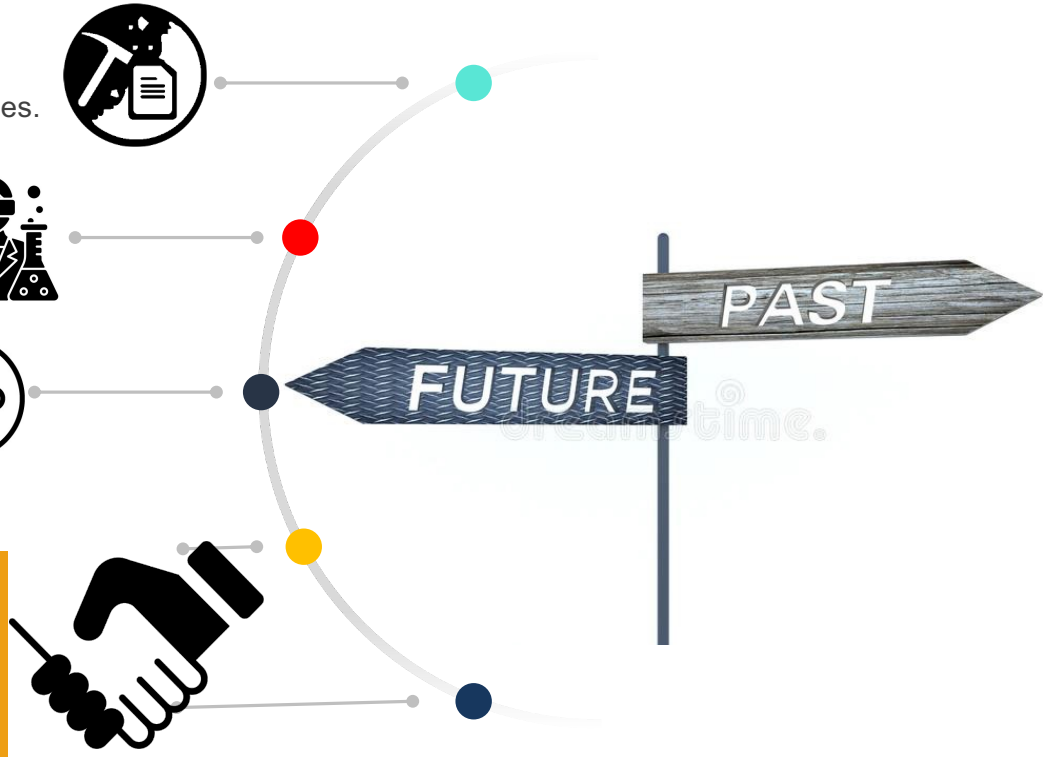
The process of finding anomalies, patterns and correlations within large data sets to predict outcomes.

Biomedical

a set of sciences applying portions of natural science or formal science, or both, to develop knowledge, interventions, or technology that are of use in healthcare or public health.

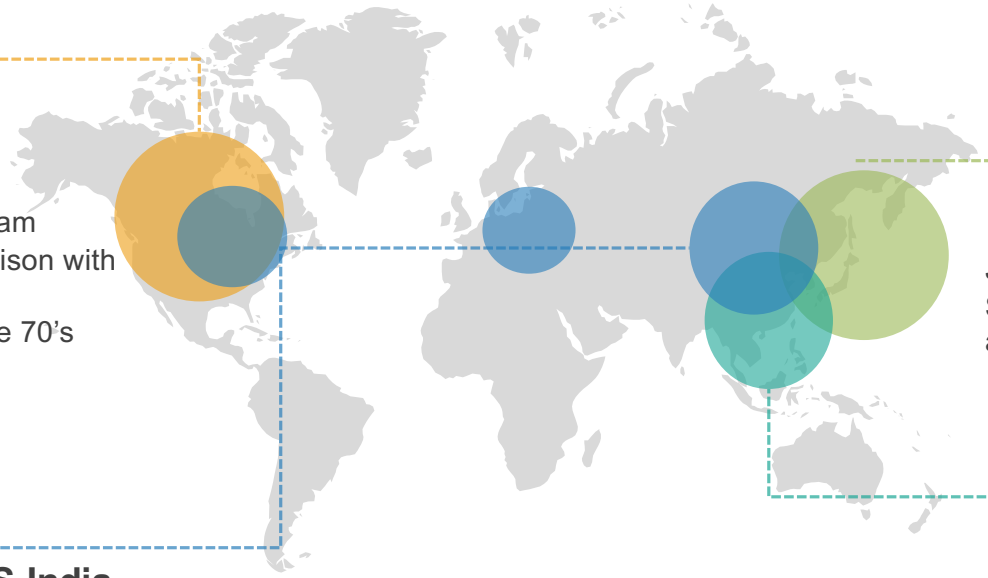
Other Possibilities

Antenna, Smart Cities, Robotics, Smart Sensors, Transportation, Telecommunication, Energy, Aerospace



For all of these, **University** can negotiate with the **Industry**, understand their challenges, come up with new ideas, develop the related platform or toolkits and related training courses for the industry.

Examples of Focused Research Programs



US

US National Foundation GOALI program (Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry)

US Government RANN Program in the 70's (Research Applied to National Needs)

Japan

Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) supports for industry-academy collaborative work

US, EU and UK run the US-India, US-China, EU-China, UK-India

US, EU and UK run the US-India, US-China, EU-China, UK-India joint research programs with industry participation.

India

GIAN program in India works with scholars/researchers in developed countries.

(Global Initiatives of Academic Networks)

Inter-university Microelectronics Center (IMEC)

- IMEC is an R&D hub for nano- and digital technologies. They combine talented people and a world-class infrastructure with industry support to develop new and innovative products

- HQ: Leuven, Belgium
- China office: Pudong Shanghai, China

A Role IEEE Can Play to Enhance Academy-Industry Collaboration (AIC)

IEEE

Advancing Technology for Humanity

IEEE

Advancing Technology for Humanity

IEEE Regions

IEEE Members

Over 400,000 members in more than 160 countries, more than 60 percent of whom are from outside the United States

IEEE Student Members

More than 107,000 Student members

IEEE Sections

342 Sections in ten geographic Regions worldwide

IEEE Chapters

2,562 Chapters that unite local members with similar technical interests

IEEE

Advancing Technology for Humanity

IEEE Technical Societies

Has 39 technical Societies and seven Technical Councils representing the wide range of IEEE technical interests.

IEEE Xplore® digital library

Has more than 5 million documents in the IEEE Xplore® digital library, with more than 15 million downloads each month.

IEEE Standards

Has an active portfolio of nearly 1,200 standards and more than 900 projects under development.

IEEE Transactions, Journals

Publishes approximately 200 transactions, journals, and magazines.

My Own Experience

Prof. Saifur Rahman

IEEE President-Elect

Experience

Industry-sponsored collaborative research projects in the US

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) fellow working as a research engineer at the Tokyo Electric Power Company

US National Science Foundation and India Department of Science and Technology-funded joint projects in India

An advisor to Global Energy Interconnection Development and Collaboration Organization (GEIDCO) in China

Thank You

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