
Envisioning Tomorrow's University — Visioning Workshop

PG Department of Computer Science & Applications, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha |
13 September 2025 | National Visioning Conference

1. Overview

The National visioning workshop, hosted at PG Department of Computer Science & Applications, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha brought together a distinguished group of academicians and industry leaders from premier institutions in and around Bhubaneswar such as Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar, Biju Patnaik University of Technology, Odisha University of Technology and Research, Xavier Institute of Management, National Institute of Science Education and Research and others. The goal of the conference was to ensure that Indian higher education becomes an example of innovation, diversity, and global relevance by not only discussing difficulties but also outlining practical transformational approaches.

Four interrelated tracks were the focus of the panel discussions: developing a roadmap for international Indian institutions; fostering collaboration through institutional governance; transdisciplinary curriculum and pedagogy; and changing higher education ecosystems and stakeholder expectations. When combined, these threads offered comprehensive perspectives on how organizations might reimagine themselves for the future.

2. Key Highlights

- Exploration of how AI is integrated into academic processes, how meaningful industry–academic partnerships and successful internationalization models are advanced
- Focus on blended, experiential, and vocational learning routes, showcasing curriculum and instructional innovations that transcend traditional silos and highlight adaptable, learner-centered frameworks aligned with national priorities and international standards.
- Emphasis on the need to rethink governance models to promote academic freedom, diversity, and responsive leadership, while examining approaches to building collaborative ecosystems and nurturing a quality-driven culture that supports internationalization, co-creation, and long-term academic success.
- Addressed key focus areas such as research excellence, sustainability, and digital transformation, offering insights into how higher education institutions can position themselves to meet emerging global challenges and opportunities.

3. Objectives of the Workshop

- Reposition higher education for evolving societal expectations
- Advance transdisciplinary curriculum and pedagogy
- Integrate technology & AI for academic transformation
- Strengthen governance and academic ecosystems
- Expand India's global academic footprint

4. Participants & Institutions

The workshop convened senior leaders and faculty in and around Bhubaneswar

Sr No.	Name of Participants	Designation	Name of Department	Name University/Institute
1	RASHMITA SAHOO	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	Utkal University
2	Soham Padhan	Ph.D. Scholar	Environmental Science (Botany)	Utkal University
3	Pankajini pradhan	Phd scholar	Geology	Utkal university
4	Ankita Pattanayak	Ph.d.	Geology	Utkal university
5	Khiraabdi Tanaya Dash	Advocate & Panelist	Independent Practitioner- Law Guest faculty	Xavier Institute of Management (XIM), Bhubaneswar
6	Jibitesh Mishra	Professor	Computer Sciences	Odisha University of Technology and Research
7	Dr Pratima Sarangi	Associate Professor & Head	Public Administration	Utkal University, Vani Vihar
8	Dr Subhendu Kumar Rath	Deputy Registrar	Administration	Biju Patnaik University of Technolgy, Odisha, Rourkela
9	Jayanti Dora	Professor	Department of History	Utkal University
10	Saroj Kanta Kar	Associate Professor	Philosophy	Utkal University
11	Umaprasana Ojha	Professor	Chemistry	IIT Bhubaneswar
12	Sabhyasachi Nayak	Assit Prof	AIHCA	Utkal University
13	Tanutrusa Panigrahi	Buxi Jaya Buddha Chair Prof	American literature	Utkal University
14	Lagnajita Dash	Lect	IMCA , computer science	Utkal University
15	Pranati Sathyarthi	Lect	IMCA , computer science	Utkal University
16	Stitapragya Mohanty	Lect	IOT, Soft Computing	Utkal University
17	Aleva Panigrahi	Lect	Computer Sciences	Utkal University
18	Pritimayee satapathy	Lect	IMCA , computer science	Utkal University
19	Shubhankar Mishra		Machine Learning, Robotics & Privacy	NISER
20	Rashmita Padhi	Lect	High performance computing	Utkal University

21	Deepak Kumar	Lect	history	Utkal University
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Convener: Dr. Sukhada Bhingarkar, Associate Dean – Student Development, SoCSE, MITWPU
Total Delegates: 21

5. Thematic Insights

Theme 1: Evolving Higher Education Ecosystem & Stakeholder Expectations

- Launch awareness workshops at the time of admission to align expectations.
- Introduce counseling sessions focusing on values, realistic career goals, and effort–reward balance.
- Introduce industry-led training sessions for existing faculty.
- Launch national recruitment and retention schemes for mid-tier universities.
- Improve faculty–student ratios by at least 15–20% to meet quality benchmarks.

Theme 2: Transdisciplinary Curriculum Development & Pedagogy

- Establish a Curriculum Innovation Council at the university level.
- Quarterly reviews of curricula to integrate emerging technologies and global priorities (AI, sustainability, digitalization).
- Create a Faculty Development Academy for Transdisciplinary Teaching.
- Introduce a Three-Tier Assessment System.
- Develop an AI & Digital Literacy Framework for all disciplines.

Theme 3: Institutional Governance for Transdisciplinary Education

- Conduct stakeholder mapping before policy adoption. Introduce “policy pilots” to test ideas before full-scale rollout.
- Organize workshops, motivation sessions, and appreciation initiatives to ease resistance. Recognize early adopters of governance reforms as role models.
- Publish annual governance progress reports to ensure transparency. Establish accountability mechanisms with defined roles and performance indicators.
- Expand governance partnerships to include industry, government, and international universities.
- Position institutions as benchmarks for flexible, ethical, and globally recognized governance.

Theme 4: Roadmap for a Global Indian University

- Expanding student and faculty mobility is essential for cultural exchange, global exposure, and seamless integration into international academic systems.

- Institutions must align with international standards and assessment models while preserving India's unique educational heritage.
- Global engagement must be rooted in sustainability, inclusivity, and cultural diversity to establish India as a responsible and respected academic leader.
- Indian universities must be positioned as hubs for innovation, incubation, and start-up ecosystems with global linkages.

6. Key Takeaways

- All stakeholders—students, parents, faculty, institutions, industry, and society—carry equal responsibility in strengthening the higher education ecosystem.
- Break down academic silos by integrating disciplines with ethics, values, and sustainability to address real-world challenges.
- Offer blended, adaptive curricula that allow students to personalize learning according to goals and preferences.
- Institutions must shift to flexible, inclusive governance models that support shared leadership, diversity, and academic freedom.
- Indian universities must adopt internationally benchmarked standards while aligning with national priorities to ensure global credibility and local relevance.

7. Photo Gallery



Inaugural Function: Felicitation of Vice Chancellor Dr. Jagneshwar Dandapat of Utkal University by Dr. Vinod Shastri, MIT world Peace University, Pune



Panel Discussion on Theme 1



Felicitation of Delegates



Group Photograph