

## **Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT)**

Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT) was founded in 1920 as a small technical school called Harbin Sino-Russian School for Industry and now has developed into a large multi-disciplinary nationally renowned university with science, engineering and research as its core. Since 1954, HIT has repeatedly been designated as one of China's leading institutions of higher education and as such has received significant financial support and investment from the Central Government. In 1984, HIT found its way into the list of 15 universities to be favorably built. In the same year, HIT became one of the first 22 universities to run an experimental graduate school. In 1992, HIT High- and New- Tech Park was founded, starting a new mode of school running described as "The institute starting the park; the park complementing the Institute; Institute and Park integrate; and Institute and Park are run separately". In 1996, HIT was in the first batch of universities to enter the list of Project 211, which was to build 100 worldly famous universities in China in the 21st century. In May 1999, HIT was awarded by the Central Government the national "May 1 Labor Diploma". In November 1999, HIT was appointed by the Central Government one of the 9 best universities to be preferentially built according to the standards of internationally renowned universities.

HIT employs a great number of scholars well known domestically and internationally. Currently, there are 2,885 faculty members, including 18 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Science and the Chinese Academy of Engineering, 444 doctoral supervisors, 629 professors and 1,112 associate professors. The university has 39,334 full-time students, of whom 12,820 are graduate students.

HIT has been bold and innovative in its scientific research and has consistently undertaken large-scale and highly sophisticated national projects. Because of this, the funding for research increases yearly. In 2002, research funding from the government, industry, and business sectors reached 567 million Yuan (US \$68million). Hi-tech research projects include China's first simulation computer, the first intelligent chess-playing computer, the first arc-welding robots, the first radar with a world-class advanced system, the first CMOS chip IC card of our own independent design, the first giant computer-aided real-time 3-Dimage constructing system, the first large-scale tank head forming machine. Most notable is the "large-scale ground simulation system vacuum container", a nationally important scientific program, which only took three years to complete. And finally, a new mini-satellite being developed domestically is to be launched soon.

HIT students study humanities and social sciences along with their basic engineering and science courses for a strong comprehensive base. They go on to learn scientific research methods and laboratory skills with enhance their creativity and innovative abilities. When the students graduate from HIT, they are equipped with strong theoretical knowledge and the ability for practical applications.

HIT devotes much attention to promoting academic exchanges and cooperation with foreign countries. It participates in intercollegiate and bilateral academic exchanges with

over 300 academic organizations and institutions of higher education. It also has signed academic cooperation agreements of friendship with over 90 institutions of higher education and scientific research organizations in almost 30 countries and regions all over the world. Every year, for the past several years, HIT has dispatched about 600 specialists and scholars abroad for further studies or academic visits, received about 800 specialists and scholars from abroad for academic visits and admitted nearly 600 international students for further studies or degree programs.

The mission of Harbin Institute of is to develop itself into an open, multi-disciplinary, high-ranking, and world famous university.

<http://en.hit.edu.cn>

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