

ASIAN SMART CITIES RESEARCH AND INNOVATION NETWORK (ASCRIN)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR JOINT PHD SCHOLARSHIP

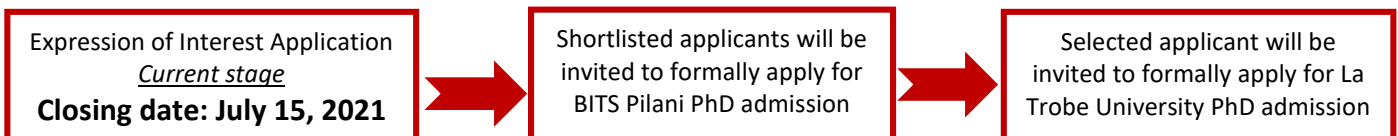
Applications are invited for joint PhD program at BITS Pilani and La Trobe University, Australia

DESCRIPTION

The Asian Smart Cities Research and Innovation Network (ASCRIN) has been initiated by La Trobe University, Melbourne Australia, in partnership with premier research institutions in India.

PhD positions in Transportation Planning are currently available with scholarship funding for students enrolled in a Joint PhD program at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani, and La Trobe University. Candidates will be based at BITS Pilani throughout his/her candidature and will have the opportunity to visit La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia for typically one year during the research project.

The **Expression of Interest (EOI)** form is the first stage in considering whether you might be suitable for selection to undertake a PhD within the ASCRIN network.



BENEFITS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

For candidates enrolled in a Joint PhD between La Trobe University and BITS Pilani:

- BITS Pilani PhD fellowship: INR 31,000 – 33,000 pm.
- A stipend of AUD \$28,597 p.a. (2021 rate) for up to one year during residency at a La Trobe University campus
- A La Trobe University Full-Fee Research Scholarship, covering tuition fee relief for up to four years at La Trobe University
- Return economy airfare between Delhi and Melbourne

ASCRIN PROJECT DETAILS

Project title: Electric-assist bicycle (e-Bike) mobility planning for smart cities: Fostering active transportation to improve public health, air-quality, sustainability, and efficiency during COVID-19

Project Team: Prasanta Sahu, Bandhan Bandhu Majumdar – BITS Pilani, Hyderabad | Rodrigo Bini, Jayden Hunter, La Trobe University, Australia

<https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/hyderabad/prasantasahu/Profile>

<https://universe.bits-pilani.ac.in/hyderabad/bandhanbandhumajumdar/Profile>

Abstract: This project will assess if e-bikes could offer a better replacement to motor vehicles than unassisted bicycles. This is important because unassisted bicycles have been shown to limit the total distance travelled due to the increased energy expenditure compared to e-bikes. This is particularly beneficial for people who are not attaining the recommended levels of physical activity as sedentary lifestyle is known to increase the risks of cardiovascular diseases. Using a stated preference survey the e-bike demand and acceptance in medium-sized transportation markets will be assessed. Based on the evidence generated through this research, policy makers in India and Australia will be able to develop more programs and policy responses to create a healthy ecosystem in and around the smart cities while fulfilling Goals 3 and 11 of the United Nations.

Minimum and desirable qualifications needed: M. Tech / M.E. in Transportation Systems Engineering / Urban Planning / Infrastructure Planning

How to Apply: Send in your complete application as per the attached format to the following e-mail address.

prasanta.sahu@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in | majumdar@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in

CANDIDATE DETAILS: PERSONAL DETAILS

Title		Given Name(s)	
Gender		Family Name	
Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)			
Contact address			
Email address			
Mobile number including country code			
Country of Citizenship			
Country of Dual Citizenship (if applicable)			
Country of Permanent Residency			
Country of birth			

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Please provide up-to 10 key words that best describe your technical research interests (discipline specific interests e.g. AI/ML in Computer Science discipline, or Radio frequency design for Electrical Engineering)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Highest Level of Education

Name of qualification/degree	Year completed	University/College	Completion Status (completed/ ongoing)	Final Grade (GPA or equivalent) if available

CURRICULUM VITAE

Attach a CV (maximum 2 pages in length) highlighting any relevant prior project / research / professional work experience including relevant publications.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (MAXIMUM 500 WORDS)

Please provide a personal statement of no more than 500 words. The statement should describe your personal motivation to undertake further study and can include details of your personal circumstances as well as your life and work experiences. It should emphasise any aspect of your personal history that may enhance your application, for example prior project or research and development experience, publications, extracurricular activity, community involvement, relevant personal characteristics and any outstanding academic or professional achievements.

CHECK LIST

- I have attached my CV (max 2 pages)
- I confirm that I have reviewed eligibility requirements at one Indian Home Institution and that at La Trobe University

HOW TO SUBMIT

Email the completed form to: prasanta.sahu@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in | majumdar@hyderabad.bits-pilani.ac.in

Last date of submission: July 15, 2021