IGNITED MINDS TODAY

A Voice for Academic Excellence and Educational Innovation
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CALL FOR ARTICLES

Inaugural Issue | 2026

A Global Platform for Educational Transformation

We invite you to contribute to the inaugural issue of Ignited Minds Today (IMT), a quarterly print magazine dedicated to advancing academic thought leadership, educational innovation, and institutional excellence across India and globally.

Whether you're a university leader driving transformation, a researcher advancing knowledge frontiers, a policymaker shaping education's future, or an innovator bridging academia and industry—we want to hear from you.

What We Publish
IMT features:

- In-depth feature articles on pressing issues in higher education
- Case studies of institutional transformation and innovation
- Thought leadership on policy, governance, and quality assurance
- Research insights and faculty excellence initiatives
- Global perspectives from international education leaders
- Analysis of industry-academia partnerships and student outcomes

Who Should Contribute
We seek contributions from:

- Vice-Chancellors, Directors, and Deans of higher education institutions
- Senior faculty and researchers with demonstrated expertise
- Education policymakers and government officials
- Industry leaders engaged in academia-industry collaboration
- International scholars and thought leaders
- Emerging scholars with innovative research or perspectives

Thematic Focus Areas for Inaugural Issue
Our inaugural issue explores ten interconnected themes that define the current landscape and future direction of Indian higher education. We welcome submissions addressing any of the following areas:

Article Types and Word Counts

We invite the following types of articles:

Article Type	Word Count
Feature Articles	1000-1200 words
Analytical/Opinion Pieces	800-1000 words
Expert Commentary/Interviews/Case Studies	600-800 words

1. NEP 2020: Five Years of Transformation

Focus: Progress, Gaps, and the Road Ahead

As we approach the five-year mark of NEP 2020, we invite thoughtful analysis of its implementation journey. What transformations have occurred? What challenges persist? Share data-driven assessments, institutional case studies, and evidence-based recommendations for the next phase.

We're looking for:

- Comprehensive policy analysis with implementation metrics
- Institutional experiences: successes and challenges
- Critical gaps requiring urgent attention
- Strategic recommendations for 2025-2030

2. Policy & Governance

Focus: Equity, Autonomy & Trust in University Governance

How can institutions balance autonomy with accountability? What governance models work best in the Indian context? Explore graded autonomy, board composition, regulatory frameworks, and the evolution toward trust-based governance systems.

We're looking for:

- Analysis of governance structures and their effectiveness
- Comparative insights (Indian institutions and international models)
- Recommendations for regulatory reform
- Best practices in board composition and stakeholder engagement

3. Quality, Accreditation & Rankings

Focus: Beyond Rankings – Redefining Quality Metrics

Rankings are ubiquitous, but do they truly measure institutional quality? Propose alternative frameworks that honor diverse missions, measure real outcomes, and avoid gaming behaviors. Share insights on accreditation reform and holistic quality assessment.

We're looking for:

- Critical analysis of current ranking methodologies
- Alternative quality frameworks and metrics
- NAAC/NBA reforms and outcome-based assessment
- Institutional strategies for pursuing excellence authentically

4. Global Perspectives

Focus: How the World is Solving Challenges India Faces

Share international models and innovations that offer lessons for India. We seek context-sensitive learning, not blind adoption—what works elsewhere and why, what's transferable, and what requires adaptation to Indian realities.

We're looking for:

- Specific international practices, policies, or systems worth examining
- Evidence of impact with data
- Honest assessment of transferability to India
- Examples from US, UK, Germany, Singapore, China, and other education leaders

5. Leadership & Institutional Transformation

Focus: From Vision to Execution

Share your institution's transformation story. How did leadership navigate change? What strategies worked? What obstacles did you overcome? We seek concrete case studies with measurable outcomes that offer practical lessons for peer institutions.

We're looking for:

- Real institutional transformation stories with data
- Specific strategies, timelines, and resource allocation
- Before-and-after metrics (enrollment, rankings, research output, placement)
- Transferable lessons for other institutions

6. Industry, Innovation & Employability

Focus: Bridging the Academia-Industry Divide

Effective academia-industry partnerships deliver tangible value: research commercialization, curriculum relevance, internships, startup ecosystems. Share models that work—and honest assessments of common pitfalls to avoid.

We're looking for:

- Successful partnership models with measurable results
- Curriculum co-creation and skill development initiatives
- Entrepreneurship ecosystems and startup success stories
- Critical analysis of challenges (IP disputes, expectations, academic integrity)

7. Research & Faculty Excellence

Focus: Building India's Research Engine

Faculty excellence is the foundation of research culture. Share strategies for recruiting and retaining research-active faculty, building infrastructure, securing funding, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and balancing teaching with research productivity.

We're looking for:

- Faculty development programs that enhance research capacity
- Infrastructure and funding ecosystem innovations
- Success stories with quantifiable research output improvements
- Strategies for interdisciplinary research and collaboration

8. Students, Learning Outcomes & Academic Excellence

Focus: Student Success Redefined

Move beyond enrollment statistics to meaningful outcomes. How do institutions develop critical thinking, professional readiness, personal growth, and social responsibility? Share assessment approaches, support systems, and programs that truly enhance student trajectories.

We're looking for:

- Holistic definitions of student success (beyond employability)
- Learning outcome assessment frameworks
- Innovative programs (mentorship, experiential learning, competency-based curricula)
- Student support services enhancing well-being and achievement

9. Education, Economy & Global Impact

Focus: Higher Education's Role in National Development

Connect higher education to India's economic aspirations. How do universities drive workforce development, innovation, social mobility, and global competitiveness? Provide macro-level analysis with compelling data.

We're looking for:

- Economic returns to education (wage premiums, employment rates)
- University research contribution to productivity and innovation
- Education's role in social mobility and equity
- India as international education destination (soft power, revenue)

10. Insights, Reviews & Briefs

Focus: Timely Updates, Expert Commentary, and Quick Takes

This section keeps reader's current with policy updates, data snapshots, book reviews, expert commentary on emerging issues, and features on IMPARC activities and MentorsGate mentorship success stories.

We're looking for:

- Policy briefs (500-600 words) on recent regulations or announcements
- Data analyses with visualization (600-700 words)
- Book reviews (700-800 words) of recent higher education literature
- Expert commentary (600-800 words) on emerging controversies or opportunities

How to Submit Your Article?

What to Include

- Complete manuscript in Word (.docx) or PDF format
- Abstract (200-250 words)
- Author bio (100-150 words) with current position and affiliation
- Professional headshot (minimum 300 DPI)
- 5-7 keywords for indexing
- Supporting visuals (graphs, charts, photos—optional but encouraged)

Editorial Standards

- Citations: APA 7th Edition style
- Tone: Academic yet accessible—write for educated non-specialists
- Evidence: All factual claims must be supported by credible sources
- Originality: Original work not previously published or under consideration elsewhere

Review Process

- Initial review: Within 7 business days
- Peer review: 2-3 weeks for selected articles
- Revision period: 10-14 days
- Publication: Accepted articles published in next quarterly issue

Submit Your Article

Email: editor@ignitedmindstoday.com

Subject Line: IMT Submission – [Theme Number & Name] – [Your Name]

Example: *IMT Submission – Theme 2: Leadership & Transformation – Dr. Rajesh Kumar*

Questions? Contact our editorial team at editor@ignitedmindstoday.com or visit www.ignitedmindstoday.com

Submission Deadline: [15/02/2026]

Additional Resources

- Full Contributor Guidelines: Available for download at www.ignitedmindstoday.com
- Sample Articles: Contact us for exemplars from each category
- APA Citation Guide: Available at apastyle.apa.org

Your Voice Matters

Join us in shaping the conversation about India's higher education future.

We look forward to your contribution to Ignited Minds Today.