

IIT-K, US institute to collaborate

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kanpur: The Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur (IIT-K) has decided to collaborate with the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena, USA, on undergraduate research. Association director for Caltech's student-faculty programmes Carolyn Ash visited IIT-K in this regard on Wednesday.

The programmes would include Summer Undergraduate Research Grant for Excellence (SURGE) and the IIT-K-Caltech Summer Undergraduate Research Exchange. These would help promote a culture of re-



Carolyn Ash

search among undergraduate students of IIT-K.

On the occasion, Ash gave a presentation on an overview of undergraduate programmes at Caltech, where the undergraduate research enterprise was formalised in 1979 with the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF). She claimed that the collaboration between Caltech and IIT-K would benefit both institutions.

Under the SURGE programme, second and third year undergraduate students would take short-term research projects during the 10 weeks from May to July. Selected students

would be provided a stipend of Rs 10,000 for 10 weeks. An additional Rs 10,000 award and a commendation certificate would be given to the SURGE student doing some exceptional research work. Eight students from IIT-K and eight from different national institutes of technology would be given a chance to take part in the programme. Under Caltech's SURF programme, three undergraduate students of IIT-K would be selected through screening and oral presentations. Also, three students from Caltech would take part in the summer undergraduate research programme at IIT-K.