

STEM to STEAM: Global forum eyes higher edu focus on arts too

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New Delhi: At its third meeting in Beijing, the Global University Association Forum (GUAF) reached a consensus on prioritising artificial intelligence (AI) for education, global mobility through academic equivalence, and promoting sustainable campuses.

The forum also encouraged expanding higher education focus from STEM to STEAM, integrating the arts for 21st-century success.

The event concluded with India being handed the flag to host the fourth conference in 2025. Vinay K Pathak, president, and Pankaj Mittal, secretary general of Association of Indian Universities (AIU), accepted the flag on Saturday.

Pathak delivered a keynote address on "University Technology

Transfer: Case Sharing," providing a comprehensive overview of successful technology transfer initiatives. He also presented a session titled "AI: A Transformative Force in Education".

Mittal participated in various discussions and networking sessions to strengthen ties between Indian and global higher education institutions. She also led a session on "Educational Innovation via Artificial Intelligence."

On the sidelines of the forum, agreements for collaboration at the country and institutional levels in research were signed. Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University (CSJMU), Kanpur, and universities from China agreed to collaborate in research, aiming to provide students from both countries with a global platform for their studies.