THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL ATWS CONFERENCE
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
CHENNAI, INDIA, DECEMBER 28-30, 2013
THEME: “PRIORITIZING THE FUTURE: CONTINUITY AND
CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH IN THE 21st CENTURY

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT AND INFORMATION

To submit an abstract and register for the 2013 ATWS conference, please access the conference registration and paper/panel submission page through http://gsw.edu/~atws/ (look under “Conferences”). Abstracts may also be submitted, and registration completed, directly through www.regonline.com/ATWS2013. Deadline for submission of abstracts is September 1, 2013.

Introduction:

We, at the Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences of IIT Madras, are very happy to host the 2013 ATWS conference. We are confident that this will bring an academic forum (ATWS) closer to an institute of national importance (IIT Madras) in their pursuit of understanding human condition in general and Third World societies in particular.

About Indian Institute of Technology Madras and the Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences:

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, is one among the foremost institutes of national importance in higher technological, education, basic and applied research. In 1956, the German Government offered technical assistance for establishing an institute of higher education in engineering in India. The first Indo-German agreement in Bonn, West Germany for the establishment of the Indian Institute of Technology at Madras was signed in 1959.
IIT Madras is a residential institute with nearly 550 faculty, 8000 students and 1350 administrative & supporting staff and is a self-contained campus located in a beautiful wooded land of about 250 hectares. It has established itself as a premier centre for teaching, research and industrial consultancy in the country. The campus is located in the city of Chennai, previously known as Madras. Chennai is the state capital of Tamilnadu, a southern state in India.

The Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences constitute a whole universe of intellectual domains, spanning the entire range of knowledge pertinent to human relationships, our history and prospects for the future. The Dept. faculty cuts across disciplines like history, economics, language, literature, sociology, politics and international relations, philosophy and anthropology among others. It offers masters programs in Development Studies and English Studies. There are core research teams in the Dept. working in the broad areas of health economics, European Union studies, sustainability etc.

About the Campus:

IIT Madras is located in the city of Chennai which is also the state capital of Tamilnadu, a southern state in India. Chennai is the fourth largest city in India and comparatively a new city, about 350 years old (1639). The city was formerly known as Madras and was renamed Chennai, which evolved from old name 'Chennapatnam'. Chennai is a coastal city with the second largest beach in the world known as 'Marina' beach. The climate is generally hot and humid. In summer (May - July) the temperature reaches up to 42Â°C (107Â°F) while in winter (Dec. - Feb.) it is slightly less hot, 18Â°C (64Â°F). The Monsoon season starts in September and lasts till November.

The campus is spread over 250 hectares of lush green forest, which is midway between the Chennai Airport and Central Railway station, and is well connected by buses and local trains. The Institute in itself is located around 2.5 km inside the campus. Two parallel roads, Bonn Avenue and Delhi avenue, lead you through the residential zone, under a canopy of green, to Gajendra Circle (otherwise called GC) and the administrative block. Buses ply between the gate and other locations on campus at regular intervals. Named after mountains, the IITM buses take you to the
GC, academic zone and hostels (named after rivers) for a nominal fare. (This has in fact led to the joke that IIT is the land of moving mountains and stationary rivers.

Chennai is connected to all European hubs like London, Frankfurt, Paris, Brussels and Asian hubs like Dubai, Istanbul etc. through major international airlines like British Airways, Lufthansa, Air France, Emirates, Etihad etc. Delegates travelling from the US will also have the option to travel directly from the US (LA, New York, Chicago) to India (via New Delhi/Mumbai) by Indian airlines like Air India and Jet Airways. Our institute is about 12 km away from the airport.

**Tourist Attractions:**

With temples, beaches and centres of historical and cultural significance, including the UNESCO Heritage site of Mahabalipuram, Chennai is one of the most visited cities in India. The city is usually seen as the cultural capital of South India with temples, beaches, churches, museums and other heritage sites.

Fort St. George: St. George Fort, located on the banks of Bay of Bengal, was built by the British East India Company in 1640 AD. The fort is believed to be the first establishment of the British in India. The military architecture marvel, it was erected as a trading post.

Government Museum: Incepted during colonial rule, the Government Museum of Chennai is one of the one of the oldest museums of India. The main attractions of the museum include the Hindu Sculpture Gallery, Bronze Gallery, Amravathi Gallery and the National Art Gallery.

Santhome Cathedral Basilica: A sacred shrine of utmost faith among Catholic Christians, Santhome Cathedral Basilica was built during the Portuguese settlement in the region in 1600s. Embraced with Neo-Gothic style of architecture the church is a peaceful pious place. Must visit!

Kapaleeswarar temple: The Kapaleeswarar Temple situated at Mylapore in Chennai is a prime shrine of Lord Shiva. The temple receives utmost reverence from the residents of Chennai. The temple depicts Goddess Parvati worshipping Lord Shiva in the form of a peacock.

Parthasarathy Temple: The temple situated at Triplicane pays homage to Lord Krishna, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu for playing role of the charioteer of the brave warrior Arjuna in the battle field of Mahabharata.
Elliot’s Beach: Located towards the south of Marina Beach, Elliot's Beach is one of the cleanest beaches and an extremely calm and tranquil place in the city of Chennai. The beach is known as 'Bessei' among natives of the city.

Marina Beach: Marina Beach is situated at Kamaraj Road, just 3 km away from the city Chennai. Extending to a length of 13 km, it is considered to be second largest beach of the world covering the region from St. George Fort to Mahabalipuram.

Mahabalipuram: It lies on the Coromandel Coast which faces the Bay of Bengal. This is an elegant place to watch which a well established sea port was during the 7th and 10th centuries of the Pallava dynasty. This was the second capital of the Pallavas who ruled Kanchipuram. Formerly, mahabalipuram was known and called as Mahabalipuram.

Though there are innumerable attractions, we at IIT Madras will tailor-make two tours (one city tour covering churches/temples/beaches/museums and another to Mahabalipuram) based on the expression of interest from participants. However, participants will have to pay for this tour.

**Accommodations:**

Accommodation will be provided in the Taramani Guest House on campus. However, only a limited number of rooms will be made available. The tariff is about Rs. 1200 (24 USD) per day excluding food. Each room has two beds and can accommodate two persons.

Those who cannot find a place in the guest house will be provided discounted price for Tata Ginger Hotel which is just outside IIT Madras gate and is walkable from the seminar venue. The single rooms including breakfast is Rs. 2500 (45/50 USD). But this tariff may change in March 2013.

**Local Transport:**

Delegates coming from abroad may take the airport taxi service to the IIT guest house (preferably Fast track). At present it charges Rs. 500 (11 USD) to drop at the institute, though it is likely to change. If you are arriving late at night or early morning, they may charge 25% extra.

Those who are housed at Taramani Guest House may walk (4/5 minutes) to the seminar venue. Guests at Tata Ginger Hotel may also walk (15 minutes), but we will provide vehicles for pick up/drop at the seminar venue.

**Seminar Venue:**
The seminar will be held at various halls of the IC & SR building which is located at Gajendra circle. The building houses one auditorium, three seminar halls, two dining halls and also many office rooms.

**Logistics to be provided:**

- Photocopying
- Projectors
- Student volunteers
- Technical support
- Arrangement of half day/one day tour