$100 Million Gift Transforms Engineering School and the Online Learning Unit

Thanks to the generosity of Chandrika and Ranjan Tandon in support of engineering at NYU, NYU Polytechnic School of Engineering has been renamed in their honor. Their remarkable gift of $100 million will support faculty hiring and academic programs, enabling us to invest even more in our high-quality curriculum and innovative learning platforms—and achieve new levels of academic excellence in engineering.

In a move to align with the recent name change to NYU Tandon School of Engineering, the school’s digital education unit will now be known as NYU Tandon Online.

Entering its second decade, NYU Tandon Online expects to grow from about 100 unique online courses today to more than 300 in the next 5 years, introducing 10 new online graduate degrees, as well as its first online undergraduate degree in computer science. Initially launched with a modest staff of merely 3 professionals, the unit now employs 26 education technologists, videographers, media specialists, and other experts anticipating the needs of next-generation digital learners engaged in active online learning.
Tandon Online
Enrollment at Nearly
30% Over Last Spring

Hitting 28% over last spring’s enrollment, NYU Tandon Online moved far ahead of the nation, with the Online Learning Consortium reporting online enrollment nationally at just 3.9% over last year.

Tandon Online Partners
With Coursera to Deliver 4-Course Cyber Specialization

Under a new agreement just concluded with Coursera, the California MOOC provider, NYU Tandon Online will offer a 4-course specialization. Topped by a capstone, courses are available without tuition to anyone who enrolls. Students who wish to earn an NYU Tandon School of Engineering certificate in a cyber specialty will pay modest fees for courses completed. The curriculum is being readied for delivery later this year by the NYU Tandon School of Engineering’s Computer Science Department under the general direction of Professor Nasir Memon.

Gearing Up for New Online Master’s Degrees

NYU Tandon Online is gearing up to launch several new online master’s degrees in the next 2 years. Among 61 online courses offered last fall, 2 new online courses were delivered in the school’s master’s in Civil Engineering program, which is expected to offer a fully online degree (following New York State approval). Nine other online civil engineering courses are also scheduled for development this spring and summer. Online courses in the NYU Tandon School of Engineering’s master’s in Integrated Digital Media program, with 5 new online courses in development, and in the master’s in Translational Surface Engineering program are in development. Both programs will introduce the school’s first low-residency programs, with some courses offered on campus in the summer. New York State recently approved the school’s new master’s in Translational Surface Engineering program for on-campus delivery.
Discovering Cybersecurity With Goldman Sachs’ Women Professionals

It is no secret that the tech industry suffers from an acute shortage of women workers. In an effort to counter the problem of gender inequality among students in the sciences and engineering, Goldman Sachs and its Technology Risk division decided to join forces with the NYU Tandon School of Engineering. As part of this year’s Cybersecurity Awareness Week, they sponsored a comprehensive workshop entitled “Discovering Cybersecurity: The Skills You Need to Succeed,” in hopes of drawing attention to the importance of women in the cyber workforce.

The event was hosted on Friday, November 13, at the NYU Tandon School of Engineering’s Bern Dibner Library of Science and Technology. While it was open to women in all stages of education, its audience comprised mostly a diverse group of female middle and high school students, wasting no time cultivating their interests in computer science. Learn more here.
The NYU Tandon School of Engineering successfully piloted 3 fully online summer computer science courses to undergraduate students. In an effort to provide a deep-dive analysis of the pilot, NYU Tandon Online enlisted the aid of 2 top researchers in the field of online learning: Eric Fredericksen, Associate Vice President for Online Learning at the University of Rochester, and Peter Shea, Associate Provost for Online Learning at the University at Albany, SUNY. In short, the goal of the study was to analyze information for NYU regarding faculty and student experiences in online computer science courses, with a focus on student and faculty readiness and a general satisfaction with online learning at NYU.

Receiving higher than average responses for all 3 courses, students and faculty replied with general satisfaction with the 3-course pilot. It added to their knowledge of the subjects and provided a rigorous format for learning. Faculty felt students were prepared and did not require as much supplemental explanation on concepts as undergraduate students normally need. Students felt comfortable with the online social environment and used the online tools to benefit their learning. Recommendations included creating a closer sense of community between on-campus and online students and creating more resources available for online learning. NYU Tandon Online is currently strategizing methods to improve in these areas.

Nearly 70 Active Learning Courses Underway

NYU Tandon Online moves forward rapidly with delivering courses in Active Learning mode. Here’s an update.

**Active Learning Course Wrap-up**

- For-credit Fully Developed: 10
- For-credit in Development: 30
- Non-credit Fully Developed: 15
- Non-credit in Development: 14
- **Total Active Learning Courses**: 69