



IISc Alumni

Newsletter of IISc Alumni Association

Volume 2 | Issue 4 | December 2009

Alumni Association interfaces with Alumni Cell to energize Alumni Network

The IISc Alumni Cell was formed in February 2007 to coordinate the networking of all the IISc alumni and create a single Global IISc community. The Cell connects Alumni Association in India — the parent body - Alumni Associations of North America, Europe, Singapore, Australia and their chapters for close interaction among themselves and with the administration, faculty and students of IISc. The vision is to provide the IISc alumni a pleasant and friendly interface with their alma mater.



Following are the primary objectives :

- * Keep alumni informed of the events on the campus — Conferences, Workshops, Activities in Departments and Centres of Excellence to enable them to participate in these programs and connect their Universities/Institutions with IISc for collaborative research /exchange programs.
- * Help the Departments interact with the alumni by inviting the alumni to the annual events organized by the departments which will help in identifying programs beneficial to faculty and students such as collaborative research and exchange programs to universities/industries/research centers represented by the alumni.
- * Connect the alumni to the IISc student community and help the students in getting the following benefits:
 - * Post-doc positions and mentoring
 - * Job opportunities in India and abroad
- * Social entrepreneurship through student activities such as education mission, community radio, etc.
- * Entrepreneurship development through **Swayam**, a student-run platform to create the spirit of enterprise-creation amongst its science and technology students.
- * Organize lectures by senior executives of companies and visits to Tech Festivals and Exhibitions organized by companies.

Some of the events organized by the Alumni Cell during 2009 :

* **KVPY (Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana)**

Alumni Cell motivated students to spread the message of KVPY to remote areas in India not covered by KVPY, which resulted in a record number of applications this year, i.e. 35584.

* **Visits to Industry**

GE Techfest 2009. The annual technology event of the GE was held on September 18th at the John F Welch Technology Centre (JFWTC), Bangalore. This technology extravaganza showcased the latest and most exciting technologies developed by the employees at the Bangalore centre. The Alumni Cell and the Students' Council facilitated the visit of students of IISc to the Techfest. Nearly 60 students visited the Fest.

* **Lectures by Company Executives**

Dr. Mohammad Ehteshami, Vice-President, Engineering and Technology, GE Oil & Gas, delivered a lecture on 06 November, 2009 at The Golden Jubilee Hall, Dept of ECE, IISc. This was attended by about 40 students.

* **Education Mission**

Dr. Gajanana C Birur, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), NASA and a member of Alumni Association of North America (AANA) delivered a lecture on 12 November, 2009 at Choksi Hall, IISc on the model he created at Birur for supporting and improving high school education.



* **Student Mentoring by AANA**

Alumni Cell initiated this program during the Centenary Conference when 15 executives from Biotech industries addressed the student community of Biology departments. This has resulted in the creation of an activity in Alumni Cell with faculty and alumni in US connecting mentors in US to Biology students seeking post doc positions in the US.

In all, the Alumni Cell is actively helping the Alumni Association.

President's Message

Dear Colleagues

Greetings and Best wishes.

Let me at the outset congratulate the Editorial Board for successfully bringing out the Newsletters on time. We also would like the members to send their suggestions and comments regarding the content of the Newsletter which will go a long way in improving the overall content. I am glad to inform the alumni that the programs planned by the Executive Committee are being launched one by one. The unique Alumni Knowledge Exchange Program is already underway and is proposed to be launched by our Patron and Director Prof. P. Balaram in the month of January 2010. The blueprint for the Alumni Centre is also ready and a presentation on this will be made during the Breakfast meeting scheduled on 20 December, 2009. We sincerely hope to receive positive response from the IISc as every member is keen to establish such a Centre which will help in strengthening the Alumni-Faculty interaction. Science Forum Lectures are also being planned from January 2010. I am also encouraged by the active participation of our alumni in all our activities.

With warm regards

K.R. Srinivasan

Editorial

One of the great assets of our country is the youth. This is a major advantage which several advanced countries are lacking. A significant part of our population is below 25 years of age and is bubbling with energy and enthusiasm. How this energy is to be dissipated and the enthusiasm is to be disseminated is what every conscious citizen has to think. Hoping that everything goes well, our optimistic planners and thinkers believe that our country is poised to be on top of the world by the middle of this century. This optimism has widely been accepted within and abroad. Welcome this optimism but understand the need to have clear plans to achieve this great goal. Many may think that the youth is distracted, directionless, and is not discharging its duties properly. This opinion is proved to be incorrect when we see the participation of youth in various empowerment programmes organized by Government and Non-government Organisations, and awareness programmes related to society, culture, arts, energy, environment, etc. However, the required consciousness has not percolated to the youth all over. One can find this disparity between the urban and rural youth. There is a lot of untapped energy that can be effectively used for the nation's development. It is in this direction that our elite has to think and plan. We have been experiencing a significant all-round development in the past two decades, both in economy and education. This momentum can further be accelerated by involving more youth into the process of development. The efforts from the Institute, Alumni Association, and the Alumni Cell are notable. The new campus that is coming up, the mentoring programme that is taking shape, and the industry-institute interaction being pursued are worth mentioning in this direction. Let us all join hands, guide the youth appropriately and place our nation on top of the world.

K.S. Rajanandam

Upcoming Events

- * Indo-German Workshop on Industrial Processes and Technologies for Sustainable Development. Organized by Centre for Sustainable Technologies, 7–8 December, 2009.
- * Conference on Modern Trends in Inorganic Chemistry XIII on 7–10 December, 2009, organized by Department of Inorganic & Physical Chemistry.
- * International Conference on Advances in Theory of Iron making and Steelmaking, 9–11 December, 2009, organized by Materials Engineering Department.
- * School on Mineral Biotechnology, 14–18 December, 2009, organized by Materials Engineering Department.
- * Breakfast Meet on Sunday, 20 December, 2009 at 9 a.m. at the Choksi Hall, followed by Extraordinary General Body Meeting at 10 a.m. Organized by IIScAA.
- * Alumni Cell is helping the Department of Instrumentation for a get together with its Alumni in January 2010, when it is planning its annual conference.
- * "Wireless Systems : Advanced Research and Development" (WISARD) 2010, Bangalore, 5–6 January, 2010. Organized by Electrical Communication Engineering Department.
- * Indo-French Workshop and Conference on Science, Technology and Humanities. A Tryst with Sustainable Development. Contact Prof. Sudhakar M. Rao, Chairman, CST. Organized by Centre for Sustainable Technologies, 27-29 January, 2010.
- * IISc students are organizing their annual festival 'Miditha 2010' during February 2010.
- * International Conference on Signal Processing and Communications (SPCOM) 2010, IISc, Bangalore, 18–21 July, 2010. Organized by Electrical Communication Engineering Department.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Faculty members

- Prof. B. Ananthanarayan**, Centre for High Energy Physics – Homi Bhabha Fellowship.
- Prof. Anurag Kumar**, ECE – CDAC-ACCS (Advanced Computing and Communications Society) Foundation Award for 2009.
- Prof. Atul H Chokshi**, Materials Engg. Dept. – First Placid Rodriguez Memorial Lecture at Kalpakkam.
- Prof. K. Chattopadhyay**, Materials Engg. Dept. – National Metallurgist's Award of IIM and N.P. Gandhi Memorial Lecture of NMD.
- Dr. S. Dasappa**, Centre for Sustainable Technologies – Best poster award by the 17th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, 29 June to 3 July, 2009 at Hamburg, Germany.
- Prof. Diptiman Sen**, Centre for High Energy Physics – Divisional Associate Editor, Physical Review Letters; elected fellow of INSA and NAS Allahabad.
- Y. Narahari**, CSA – Fellowship of INSA, GM, R&D Faculty Award.
- Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar**, Centre for Ecological Sciences – 1. Chief Editor, Indian Journal of History of Science, 2009, 2. Editorial Collaborator, Science and Culture, 2009, 3. Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Biosystematica, 2009.
- Prof. U. Ramamurty**, Materials Engg. Dept. – Fellowship of INAE.
- Prof. Rohini M. Godbole**, Centre for High Energy Physics – Fellow, TWAS.
- Prof. A.G. Samuelson**, Inorganic & Physical Chemistry – TATACHEM Chair.
- Prof. S. Subramanian** and **Prof. Vikram Jayaram**, Materials Engg. Dept. – Fellowship of IIM.
- Dr. Sunil Chandran**, CSA – Selected as an Associate of the Indian Academy of Sciences. The associate-ship will continue until 31 December, 2012. MSR India Outstanding Young Faculty Award from Microsoft Research Lab India, September 2009.
- Prof. M.K. Surappa** and **Prof. Vikram Jayaram**, Materials Engg. Dept. – Fellowship of INSA.
- Dr. P. Thilagar**, Inorganic & Physical Chemistry – Young Associate of the Indian Academy of Sciences (September 2009).
- Prof. Thomas Kailath**, ECE – 1. Padma Bhushan award in April 2009, 2. Elected in July 2009 as a Foreign Member of the Royal Society, 3. Honorary Doctorate from the Viswesaraya Technological University in July 2009, 4. Blaise Pascal Medal from the European Academy of Sciences in November 2009.

Alumni

- Sri Anindita Bhadra**, IISER Fellow, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Nadia, West Bengal – The INSA Young Scientist Award in Biology for the year 2009.
- Ms. Asha K** Ph.D. student. Centre for Sustainable Technologies – Mondialogo Engineering Bronze Medal Award for the project on "Re-use of waste materials for sustainable future".
- Sri Jayan N.**, Scientist-SF, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, ISRO, Trivandrum – The 'Astronautical Society of India-Space Gold Medal' for meritorious service in the area of space research.
- Mr. S.A. Kannan**, ME, 2009 batch – Received the ISA Technoinventor 2009 Award from India Semiconductor Association for the best Master's Thesis titled "Low Power Design Techniques for the Front End of a Radio Frequency Communication Receiver".
- Dr. Madhav Madhira** – "Bharat Ratna Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya Award" by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and the Institution of Engineers (India), A P State centre for his outstanding contribution in the field of Engineering.
- Dr. M. Manjunatha Nayak**, Deputy Director, Dept. of Space, Chandigarh – The "Merit Award" by ISRO in recognition of outstanding contributions to the programmatic activities of ISRO/DOS in various capacities.
- Dr. G. Parthasarathy** – Decennial Award of Indian Geophysical Union for the year 2009.
- Dr. K.S. Rajanandam**, ChE, MSRIT – Elected to the Council of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, for three years 2010–2012.
- Prof. N. M. Reddy**, Emeritus Professor – Distinguished Alumnus Award of the Department of Aerospace Engineering.
- Dr. V. Sabareesh** – Prof. B H Iyer Medal for the best Ph.D thesis on "Mass spectrometric sequencing of acyclic and cyclic peptides".
- Sri C.R. Subramanian** – Written books "BEL 25 Years and After" and "Chronicle of a Navaratna".
- Dr. Surendra Pal**, Distinguished Scientist, ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore – The 2010 IEEE Judith A. Resnik Award "for the development of various spaceborne communication systems, planning, operationalization and advancement of Global Navigation Satellite Services (GNSS) in India."

Research & Development Activities

- Prof. Vinod Sharma**, **Prof. Utpal Mukherji**, **Dr. Neelesh B. Mehta**, ECE, Research Project: "Providing QoS to Real and Non-Real Time Applications over WIMAX Network". Funded by Dept. of Information Technology, India.

New Editorial Board for the Newsletter

The Editorial Board of the IISc Alumni Newsletter was reconstituted and has taken charge in the month of November 2009. The Editorial Board earnestly requests contributions from all the faculty, alumni and students in the form of articles, photos, information concerning to IISc activities for publishing in the forthcoming issues.

Secretary's Report

As per the Annual General Body Meeting held on 01 August, 2009, the Membership Fees has been revised. Existing Life & Donor Members are all Life Members of the Alumni Association and the revised fee is applicable only to the new members who get enrolled from 01 August, 2009.

New members enrolled from 01 August to 30 November, 2009 :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Sri Sheron Figarado | 2. Sri A. Vadivelan |
| 3. Sri Somasurendrakumar | 4. Dr. Ravindra Babu Yarasu |
| 5. Sri Shivanand R Bhat | 6. Sri K. Ajay Kumar |
| 7. Dr. Tanmoy Bhattacharya | 8. Sri Yatishwar Dravid |
| 9. Sri Neehar Ranjan Moharana | 10. Dr. Barie Beeraiah |
| 11. Sri Subrahmanya Prasad N. | 12. Sri Sankaralingam M. |
| 13. Dr. Yashoda Ghanekar | 14. Dr. Ayan Roy Chaudhari |
| 15. Sri Naveen B | 16. Sri Nagendra G. D |
| 17. Dr. Heera Krishna | 18. Dr. Sourabh Suhas Diwan |
| 19. Dr. Naresh Babu Pendyala | 20. Sri Pradeep Roy Kandru |
| 21. Sri Anish Prakash Sane | 22. Sri Nikhil Suresh Gokhale |
| 23. Sri Shreyas L | 24. Sri Sathish Valluri |
| 25. Sri Dabiru Venkata Rambabu | 26. Dr. V. Balasubramanian |
| 27. Sri Vasappanavara Anand | 28. Sri S. Balaji |
| 29. Sri Appan Ponnappan | |

Dr. N. C. Shivaprakash

The Networking Committee of IIScAA requests all the members to attend the breakfast meeting to be held on 20 December, 2009. The committee also requests the members to witness the presentation on the Alumni Centre and give their valuable suggestions in bringing the Alumni closer for active participation in all IIScAA activities.

How to become a Member

An Alumnus can become a life member of the IISc Alumni Association by submitting an application along with the required fee. The fee details and other formalities are as follows :

1. Rs. 5000/- towards Life Membership and ID Card (India) – One Time Payment Only.
2. US\$ 300 towards Life Membership and ID Card (Overseas) – One Time Payment Only.
3. Rs. 3000/- towards Associate Membership (IISc Faculty only).
4. Cheque payment – it should be made payable to "IISc Alumni Association". In case of outstation cheque Rs. 25/- to be added towards bank commission charges.
5. Two Photographs for issuing ID Card.
6. Membership fee can also be paid through online payment gateway at www.iiscbaa.org

Please send your application to

Dr. N.C. Shivaprakash, General Secretary
Alumni Association, IISc, Bangalore - 560 012

Miditha 2010

The Indian Institute of Science, India's premier institute in the sciences and engineering has recently completed a hundred years of glorious achievement in research and education.

The Students Council, IISc is planning to mark this occasion with a cultural fest - Miditha 2010. Miditha is a Kannada word for pulse and this symbolizes the pulse of the student community, the scientific temperament, the inquisitive mind and the effervescent attitude.

The regular IISc fest Vibrations has been around since the autumn of 1972. In keeping with the centenary we are re-branding Vibrations as Miditha.

We are targeting participation from all colleges in Bangalore and the major ones from around the country. We expect a footfall of at least 5000 visitors during the three days of the fest.

We would like to invite you to partner us in this effort. This will be an opportunity to express your support and solidarity with the students of the Institute.

This year's carnival holds a special significance for us as we step into a new century of our existence and we believe that your participation and support towards Miditha 2010 will enable us to scale newer heights and make this a pulsating experience for one and all...

COME join us on this remarkable journey!!!

**Miditha 2010
Organization team**



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