



IISc Alumni

Newsletter of IISc Alumni Association

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IIScAA Science Forum – Popular Lecture Series



Dr. K. Radhakrishnan delivering the inaugural Science Forum Lecture

IISc. Alumni Association (IISc AA) has been constantly encouraging the active participation of scientific community to address the global & social issues over the last many years. Further reaching these to the common individual, IISc AA has recently launched the “IIScAA Science Forum – Popular Lecture Series”, which promotes the quality of the dialogues on the new roles and challenges of today's global society.

This Popular Lecture Series would disseminate the emerging trends of Science & Technology and Social Science globally to the society, along with history, philosophy, discoveries, inventions, revolutions, limitations, use and abuses. These would definitely help the common individual to extract the best out of the Science & Technology.

To meet these objectives, invited lectures will be regularly organized and the speakers will include eminent and nationally recognized personalities belonging to various frontiers of technologies from IISc and leading research organizations, which will take us through a long way in provoking the thoughts and awareness.

This series of Lectures by eminent speakers in their area of expertise would particularly enthuse the student community to get the most

needed confidence and interest in the field of Science & Technology. It may be noted that this Popular Lecture Series is open to one and all including general public.

The Inaugural Lecture in this Series was delivered by **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan**, Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, ISRO on “ISRO Saga Forward” on April 3, 2010 at the Faculty Hall, IISc. **Dr. V. K. Aatre**, Former Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister & currently Visiting Professor at Indian Institute of Science and who is also the Senior Advisor to the IISc. Alumni Association, was the moderator for this Lecture.

The Second Lecture was delivered by **Prof. J. Srinivasan**, Chairman, Divecha Centre for Climate Change and Professor, Centre for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, on “The Science and Politics of Climate Change” on May 15, 2010 at the Faculty Hall, IISc. **Dr. H. S. Mukunda**, Advisor to Advanced Bio-residue Energy Technology Society, was the moderator for this Lecture.



Prof. J. Srinivasan delivering the second Science Forum Lecture

The Faculty Hall was packed full for the first lecture and over 150 participants, mainly the student community attended the second lecture.

H.R. Parthasarathy
Convener, IIScAA Science Forum

Upcoming Events

Third Science Forum Lecture : “Management of Life and Profession” by Prof. N.S. Ramaswamy at Faculty Hall, 12th June 2010

Fourth Science Forum Lecture : “The Indian Institute of Science : Learning from History” by Prof. P. Balaram at Faculty Hall, 10th July 2010

IISc. Alumni Association is organising a Breakfast Meet on Sunday, June 20, 2010 at 9 a.m. in the Choksi Hall, IISc

Prof. S.K. Chatterjee Award Lecture will be delivered by Prof. Bharathi Bhat on “Millimeter Wave Techniques” on Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 3.30 p.m. in the ECE Golden Jubilee Auditorium, IISc.

Centre for Ecological Sciences : a) Student Conference on Conservation Science during 16th to 18th June 2010, at JN Tata Auditorium, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India. b) National conference on Conservation of Biodiversity from 19th to 22nd November 2010 at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

President's Message

Dear Colleagues

Greetings and Best Wishes.

I am glad that we could maintain the schedule of our News Letter over the last two years and I congratulate the team for offering informative news to our fellow Alumni. I am glad to inform that various initiatives launched by the Association are progressing very well and we are trying our best to serve our Alumni. The Science Forum Lecture Series is attracting good audience and I would request all the members to inform others also, particularly the Student community and the public at large, so that they can benefit from the lecture series. Next few lectures are also lined up from high profile speakers. The knowledge Exchange programme has taken off very well with more than 150 top-notch Scientists and Technologists registered as Mentors for the programme. I request the Alumni members to rope in their children in the programme as Mentees so that they can benefit from the wealth of expertise of the Mentors.

K.R. Srinivasan

Editorial

In our daily life now and then we encounter people with impatience. Every ordinary person will be impatient on occasions. However, the frequency and intensity varies from person to person. The impatience is expressed in several ways like exhibiting anger, talking louder and feeling restive. On a lower degree, many people interfere or interrupt the conversation between other two because they are impatient and cannot wait till the point of conversation ends. Such ways of impatient behaviour annoy others once it crosses certain limit. Some times it may attract retaliation from others, lead to quarrels and rarely to the unfortunate state of sniped relation. Hence, by any standards the act and expression of impatience is unwanted. An adage says 'A minute of anger may cause a life time of agony to you'. This is very true. It may not occur every time but we do not know when it happens. When it happens no amount of introspection, repentance or persuasion will bring normalcy. So, the only way is to be polite in all situations. Only practice makes one perfect. After all we interact with our fellow humans.

K.S. Rajanandam

Felicitation to the Senior Distinguished Gurus of IISc

Three Senior Distinguished Gurus were honoured by Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc on 2nd March 2010 in the Faculty Hall. The event was organized by IISc Alumni Association in recognition of their outstanding contribution in their chosen area of Science and Technology and providing guidance to many outstanding students for many decades.

1. Prof. M. V. Bhat, Organic Chemistry
2. Prof. K. T. S. Iyengar, Civil Engineering
3. Prof. G. V. Anantha Iyer, Inorganic & Physical Chemistry

This function was followed by a Cultural Programme by Ms. Pallavi Prasanna, a Carnatic Music Vocalist & Group. A Dinner was arranged



Science and Technology Run - 2010

Better Run... Keep Running... The theme of the second edition of Science and Technology Run aptly encouraged the IISc community to come out of their beds on an early Sunday morning of 11th April and run together around the serene campus surroundings.

About 1200 people from inside and outside the campus took part in various run categories: 10Km, 5Km Fun Run and a 2.5Km walkathon for senior people. There was an exclusive 2.5K run for children as well. IISc Alumni and other people of about 150 corporate companies from around the city took part in the Run. For the first time, a Corporate Relay (5 x 1 Km) was also held.

The subtle idea of organizing this event annually is to bring together people from all walks of life along with scientific community, to celebrate contributions of science and technology to society. SNT Run aims to add co-operation, vision and visibility to the Institute's community, its efforts and its contribution; to help develop the society with scientific temperament.

This event was organized by IISc Alumni Association, Bangalore chapter and was sponsored by ACI Worldwide and supported by Texas Instruments, Analog Devices, HP, LG, PRDC Infotech, NEN, Columbia Asia and Cognizant.



Deepak Malani

Founder's Day Celebration by IISc AANA, March 2010



In remembrance of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Founder and visionary, Jamshetji Nusserwanji Tata, the Alumni Association of North America (AANA) hosted a day-long "Founder's Day 2010" event that included a number of presentations

mostly by IISc alumni, networking sessions, a celebratory dinner, and cultural entertainment. Held on March 13 2010, at the TiE Center, in Santa Clara, California, the festivities brought together about 80 local alumni and friends for a day of reconnecting, discussion, and reminiscences of IISc history.

The event kicked off at 1 p.m. with an AANA update by Dr. Yash Bhatnagar, President of AANA Board and Mr. Sanjeev Ukhalkar President of the Executive Committee of AANA.

The proceedings began with a presentation on "Emerging Investment Opportunities" given by Mr. Sriram Viswanathan, VP of Intel Architecture Group, and Dr. Dipender Saluja, Managing Partner of the Capricorn Investment Group. Mr. Viswanathan's talk was focused on emerging opportunities in mobile technologies, cloud computing and IT, while opportunities in alternative energy was the focus of Dr. Saluja's talk. Mr. Sanjeev Ukhalkar (President of the Executive Committee of AANA) introduced the speakers and moderated the Q&A session.

After a networking/coffee break, there were three successive panel discussions under the heading of "Emerging Technologies for the Decade" and focused on Alternate Energy, Mobile Applications, and Healthcare.

Dr. Ashok Sinha (CEO & Chairman Sunpreme Inc), Dr. Om Nalamasu (CTO, Applied Materials), Dr. Nety Krishna (Specialist Partner, Redpoint Ventures) - all alumni and Dr. Dipender Saluja (Managing Partner of the Capricorn Investment Group) served as panelists for Alternate Energy. These accomplished alumni shared information about various new ventures and emerging technologies that were being funded by the global investment community in the alternative energy sector. Dr. Yash Bhatnagar introduced the panelists and moderated the panel discussion and Q&A.



Mr. Jagadish Bandhole (CEO, Fonemine), Mr. Shishu Bedi (COO, AdMaxim), and Mr. Srinu Dharmaji (CEO, GoldSpot Media and alumni) were the panelists for Mobile Applications. These panelists spoke about their new ventures in this vertical, challenges and opportunities to the day to day application of mobile technology and social media. Mr. Anil Chaudhary (AANA Executive Member) introduced the panelists and moderated the panel discussion and Q&A.

Dr. Usha Arunachalam (Pharma Consultant), Dr. Naishadh Desai (Patent Agent, Nektar Therapeutics), Dr. Ravi Kiron (Managing Director, Adjuvant Global Advisors) – all alumni, were the panelists for the Healthcare. Usha and Ravi educated the audience (most of them not being from lifesciences) with a broad over-view of the opportunities and challenges of the drug discovery and development process, the massive amount of patient investment that is needed, the many years that it takes to bring a drug to market and the challenging regulatory process involved in drug approvals. Naishadh gave a broad overview of the patent process, and discussed its importance in obtaining protection of novel ideas and some dos and don'ts to protecting the intellectual property. Dr. Ravi Kiron (AANA Executive Member) also introduced the panelists and moderated the Q&A session.

The presentations and panel discussions were followed by a scrumptious Indian dinner and concluded with an entertainment program that included the melodious singing of popular Hindi songs sung by local talents Mr. Raju Iduri and Ms. Sudha Sastry.

Vas Srinivasan

Centre for Earth Sciences (CEaS)

The Centre for Earth Sciences at IISc is entering its third year of existence. Established with a vision for multidisciplinary research, our academic and research programmes are anchored on themes ranging from solid earth processes, monitoring of regional atmosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere and their interactions. Current research activities are focused on crustal evolution and crustal processes, earthquake mechanisms and recurrence, paleoclimate record and geological evolution and other related themes. CEaS admits students to MSc (Engg) and PhD programmes. Centre presently has three core and four associate faculty members, ten PhD students, three postdoctoral fellows, and ten project staff. It also houses a museum on rocks and minerals, isotope ratio mass spectrometry laboratory, petrology laboratory, thin section preparation laboratory and gas chromatography laboratory.

The Centre's activity is presently supported by several government funding agencies which include, MoES, ISRO-IISc STC, INCOIS, and DST. The Centre has recently been granted a major project, "Research, Education and Manpower Development in the Discipline of Earth Processes", by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, for establishing infrastructural facilities. This project also provides support for post-doctoral fellows, project staff, hosting national and international visitors, and organizing short courses. This project is in its initial phase of implementation and a suite of six basic earth science laboratories are being established.

For more details visit: <http://ceas.iisc.ernet.in/>

Events and new research programmes:

Students and postdoctoral researchers of the Centre are presently participating in several national and international level research programs and campaigns. This includes participation in the following activities:

- * CTCZ expedition 2009 (on ORV Sagar Kanya and Sagar Nidhi, during July 14 to Aug 18, 2009) to Indian Ocean for understanding the monsoonal phenomena over oceanic region.
- * The ORV Sagar Kanya Cruise (June 1-30, 2010); our team would explore, for the first time, the continental slopes of the Bengal Basin for turbidite deposits from the great 2004 earthquake and its predecessors.
- * The national GPS programme for crustal deformation; CEaS would set up two stations, at Mangalore and Bellary.

A global earthquake watch would begin shortly, by setting up a digital earthquake recording station.

Upcoming workshops: Remote sensing applications in earth science (July/August 2010); Curriculum for an M.Tech program in earth sciences (June/July 2010).

C.S. Manohar

IIScAA Activities

- * Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc, honoured Senior "Distinguished Gurus" of IISc on the occasion of Alumni Day on March 2, 2010 at the Faculty Hall, IISc. This function was followed by the Cultural Programme by Ms. Pallavi Prasanna, a Carnatic Music Vocalist & Group and Dinner at Choksi Hall, IISc.
- * IISc Alumni Association, IISc. Alumni Cell & IISc Alumni Association Bangalore Chapter organised the GE Alumni Breakfast Meet on Sunday, March 14, 2010 at the IISc. Main Guest House Lawns.
- * IIScAA Bangalore Chapter organised a Science and Technology Run - 2010 on April 11, 2010.
- * The Inaugural lecture of "IIScAA Science Forum - Popular Lecture Series" was delivered by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan. The second lecture was delivered by Prof. J. Srinivasan.

We welcome the following new Members enrolled from 16th February 2010 to 30th May 2010.

Mr. Anandrup Das	Mr. Harsh Shrimal
Mr. Nayan Dubey	Mr. Ganesh Kumar K
Mr. Abhay Kumar Yadav	Mr. Hari Prasad Arisetty
Mr. Jimmy Bahuleyan	Mr. Vinayak S Puranik
Mr. Venkateswaran T	Mr. Saji K.P
Mr. Dilip Mathew Thomas	Mr. Prasanna Gadkar
Mr. R. Ganesh	Mr. Vinod Kumar Chouhan
Mr. Bhupender Singh	Mr. S. M. Sreedhar K
Mr. C. S. Varma	Mr. Rachit Rawat
Mr. Konala Gopi Krishna	Mr. Bharath Reddy Devireddy
Mr. Shetye Ravi Shirish	Ms. Shyamala Perumalla
Dr. Satish Tiwary	Dr. P. Swapna Rao
Dr. Asim K Ghosal	Dr. T. R. Madan Mohan
Dr. Glory Adrasic	Mr. Vishwas
Mr. Sriram M. Adhyapak	Dr. Murthy O.V.S.N
Mr. Saifikhani M	Mr. Ramanathan S
Ms. Ankita Pramanik	Mr. Balagam Rajesh
Mr. Mohana Rao Damacherla	Mr. Saikrishna Gadhamsetty
Mr. Suresh Kumar V V	Mr. Mukesh Mahor
Mr. Ujwal D Bonde	Dr. C. R. Pranesachar
Dr. A. K. Nandakumaran	Dr. B. J. Venkatachala
Dr. Subrata Sanyal	Mr. Shastry B S G K
Dr. Mohit Bajaj	Dr. B. Munwar Basha
Dr. R. Parthasarathy	Mr. Akhilesh Mishra
Dr. T. Asokan	Mr. Vivek Chandran K. P.
Dr. S. Madhusudana Rao	Mr. Naveen Deshpande
Mr. Sanjay Mittal	Dr. Addicam Jagannadha Rao
Dr. Rahul Vaish	Dr. Usha Natraj
Dr. Ajey Kumar Patel	Mr. Bhardwaj Onkar
Dr. M. Ravindra	Mr. Vishal Vijay Dixit
Dr. Sreenivasulu Gopu	Ms. Nithya V S
Dr. Padmanabhan K. Menon	Mr. Nisseem Sandip Nabar
Dr. Kiran J. Achyutuni	Dr. Sunil Saigal
Prof. K. L. Sebastian	

N.C. Shivaprakash

Awards & Achievements

Prof. Manju Bansal of Molecular Biophysics Unit has been awarded the J.C. Bose Fellowship.

Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar of Centre for Ecological Sciences has been awarded INSA S.N. Bose Research Professorship, 2010-2015 and Millennium Plaques of Honour, 2010 by Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata.

"Prof. S.K. Chatterjee Award for the year 2010" will be conferred on **Prof. Bharathi Bhat** by Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc on Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 4.15 p.m. in the ECE Golden Jubilee Auditorium, IISc.

New Analytical Facility, Bruker "Avance III 400 MHz FT-NMR Spectrometer" costing USD 2,25,000 was established in the Organic Chemistry Department in March, 2010.

Director has recently approved "IISc Photonics Initiative" in ECE Department with Prof. S. Asokan (ISU) as the Convener.

IIScAA Knowledge Exchange Programme

Programme Status

The IISc Alumni Association Knowledge Exchange Programme ("IIScAA KEP"), launched by our Director Prof. P. Balaram on January 23, 2010 is growing rapidly and gaining a lot of momentum. The programme has just completed 100 days and here are some great statistics:

Percentage of alumni that responded with an enthusiastic 'YES' to our survey - 'Would you like to join this innovative programme?'	91%
Countries from which users have joined the programme (India, US, UK)	3
Activated alumni and student users	1050
Mentors who have come forward to guide IISc students and other alumni	172
Industry sectors represented by the user base	20
Knowledge cafés to bring together knowledge and experience of global alumni	9

Gains of IIScAA Knowledge Exchange Programme (IIScAA KEP)

IIScAA KEP is an innovative initiative to make knowledge & expertise of eminent IISc Alumni occupying high positions around the world, available to youngsters, academicians, scientists and entrepreneurs to pursue their career goals. Empowered by Parjanya, IIScAA KEP is an online platform which facilitates

- **Alumni** to share knowledge and pursue career interests by collaborating with the IISc affinity network, participate in elite virtual panel discussions, mentor students and other members of the alumni fraternity, establish curricular links with various departments and faculty.
- **Students** to receive guidance from alumni mentors to pursue career goals, nurture academic and research interests, explore jobs / internships.
- **Faculty** to network with the alumni from their departments or those working in related industries, refer their students to appropriate alumni for jobs / internships, explore new ideas with alumni for courses and research projects.

To become part of this innovative programme, please visit the IIScAA Office on campus or send an email to alumni@admin.iisc.ernet.in

Alumni who are yet to become members of the IISc Alumni Association may visit the IIScAA office or visit <http://www.iisc alumni.com/about-us/membership.htm> for details.

V. Babu Sathian

Convener, IIScAA Knowledge Exchange Programme

Dr. Santanu Mukherjee from Harvard University, Cambridge, USA has joined the Organic Chemistry Department as Asst. Professor on 29th April, 2010

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IISc Alumni

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