

# IISc Alumni

Newsletter of IISc Alumni Association

Volume 4 | Issue 2 | June 2011

## Entrepreneurship Program at IISc

Bangalore Chapter of IISc Alumni Association initiated a project in July 2010, to study the current situation and recommend a suitable Entrepreneurship Program in the context of IISc and its students' centric. An Alumni team, which has experience in creating and growing successful technology companies and entrepreneurs within a corporate environment, was formed for the study. The team was led by Mr Anand Talwai, Chairman of Bangalore Chapter and supported by other executive committee members Mr Vishnu Makkapati, Dr Sanjay Chitnis, Suman Devadula and Mr Uday Shankar.

The team started interacting with SID on one side and Alumni Cell on the other side to have an idea of current entrepreneurship activity at IISc. Alumni cell informed the study team about it and connected them to 'Swayam', run by Student Council since 2009. It also connected them to Parjanya portal coordinator, Mr Amogha. Swayam is a student run platform at IISc to create the spirit of enterprise creation among Science and Technology students of IISc. Alumni cell was already helping the Swayam group by connecting them to alumni from abroad such as Dr Parveen Jain, USA, Prof Yogesh Gianchandani of University of Michigan and



Mr. Anand Talwai, President, IIScAA Bangalore Chapter interacting with the students

Dr Murthy Halemane of Netherlands, who have become successful entrepreneurs. Their lectures were organized and some of them exposed students to similar ongoing programs in their universities and shared with them syllabus of the courses. The study team also interacted with successful entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs in corporates and also studied similar programs in top US and India Universities. It also interacted with Department of Management studies and some faculty-entrepreneurs in IISc.

### The Study consisted of following major components:

- Interaction with students interested in Entrepreneurship to understand their requirements. It was a half-a-day program; huge and positive response interviews with faculty who had supported entrepreneurship in one form or the other.
- Interaction with large number of alumni in Bangalore and USA who are successful entrepreneurs. Inputs from personal experiences of study team members.
- Discussions with Prof Mohan, Chairman, Alumni Cell and Student Council members.
- Comparison of similar programs in IITs, IIMs, MIT, Stanford and other leading universities.
- Discussions with Profs Veni Madhavan, Mary Mathew and Bala Subrahmanya. Review of all existing companies in SID by a panel of alumni consisting of Dr Gopalkrishna, Mr D.N. Prahlad and Dr C.V. Natraj.
- Based on the study, an Entrepreneurship Program in the context of IISc was recommended.

The study was completed in December 2010. The study report along with recommendations was presented to Prof P. Balaram, Director, IISc by Mr Anand Talwai, Mr Vishnu Makkapati and Prof Mohan. Director was happy with the study and gave a positive response for its implementation. During January, February and March of 2011, detailed discussions were held particularly with SID, Department of Management studies, Prof Mohan and some active alumni. Discussions were also held with current incubate companies in SID.

### Upcoming Events

1. Fourteenth Science Forum Lecture : "Energy for the Millions : the challenge of the century" by Dr. V.S. Arunachalam on June 18, 2011 at 4 p.m. in the Faculty Hall, IISc
2. The Department of Electrical Engineering, IISc, is organizing an International Conference as a major event of its Centenary Year celebrations, during December 15-17, 2011 at IISc, Bangalore. For details, visit : <http://www.ee.iisc.ernet.in/Centenary-Conference>
3. National Conference of Nanoscience and Engineering for better ceramics (NanoSEC 2011), June 23-24, 2011 at MRC Auditorium. For details, visit : <http://www.icsbc.in>

## President's Message

Dear Colleagues

At the outset I would like to thank all, for the opportunity given to me to lead the Alumni Association for the last two and half years. My term will be coming to an end on August 6th, 2011, when the New Executive committee will take over. It is very gratifying to note that our committee could raise the level of the Association with a number of programmes and activities.

The President Elect Mr. Babu Sathian will take over as the President with effect from August, 2011. With his vast experience in the professional field and also holding very responsible positions in a number of Professional bodies, we can expect the Association to prosper further under his leadership.

We will also be conducting the Election for the New Executive Committee as well as the President Elect, in the month of July, 2011. I sincerely hope younger Alumni will come forward to serve in the Executive Committee and work for the progress of the Association.

I sincerely thank our Patrons, IISc Management, Faculty and our fellow members for the excellent cooperation extended to me and to our committee.

K.R. Srinivasan

## Editorial

It all happened in one of the EC meetings of our association held before the centenary celebrations. It was the unanimous decision of the members to publish a newsletter. Naturally there must be an editor supported by an editorial board. I am greatly indebted to our advisor Dr. V.K. Aatre who proposed my name as editor which was readily accepted by all. Thus came the first newsletter in March 2008. With the support of the editorial board and all the alumni, particularly the contributors of various articles, we are successfully bringing out the newsletter 'IISc Alumni' for the past three years. It is my privilege to serve the alumni in this capacity. The association is very active implementing several programmes. These activities are being brought to the notice of all the alumni through the newsletters. All the issues were well received by the alumni. I am extremely thankful to all those who expressed appreciation to the contents, and my editorials in these issues. There are so many newspapers, periodicals, and other journals that bring out editorials on contemporary issues. In the space of about fifteen square inches in which only few sentences will fit, I thought of addressing aspects of human values. Words cannot express the encouragement extended by the people. It is an opportunity to anyone to work with an elite group. The cooperation extended by the Chairmen of various departments is commendable. As one can understand there is considerable effort involved in contacting the people, receiving the information and collating it to bring out each issue. This has been shared by the editorial board with suggestions from the office bearers and other EC members. On the eve of a new team taking up the reigns of the Association, the present editorial board sincerely wish that the legacy be carried forward with more vigor and rigor.

K.S. Rajanandam

### Prof. N. Appaji Rao Best Mentor Award - 2011

(Instituted by students and associates of Prof. N. Appaji Rao)

The Indian Institute of Science Alumni Association invites nominations for the Prof. N. Appaji Rao Best Mentor Award. The purpose of the award is to honour a distinguished scientist in the area of Biological Sciences who has mentored several young persons to achieve positions of eminence and leadership.

1. Name of the Award : Prof. N. Appaji Rao Best Mentor Award

2. Eligibility : The awardee should be a distinguished academic or a leader in industrial research related to Biological Sciences ; should have mentored associates, who have achieved leadership positions. The nominee should be below 65 years as on January 1, 2011.

3. The award consists of a cash prize of approx. Rs.1,00,000/- (inclusive of travel and incidental expenses) and a citation, which will be presented by the Director of IISc, Bangalore, India, on August 6, 2011. This award will be given once in 3 years starting from the year 2011.

4. The nomination containing the CV of the nominee ; list of publications ; list of mentees who have been mentored by the nominee and the positions presently held by them and any other relevant information, should be sent by e-mail : [alumni@admin.iisc.ernet.in](mailto:alumni@admin.iisc.ernet.in) (OR) Post to :

The President  
IISc. Alumni Association  
Indian Institute of Science  
Bangalore-560012, India

so as to reach him on or before June 30, 2011.

### The Department of Electrical Engineering, IISc Celebrates its Centenary during 2011-12

The department of Electrical Engineering at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, completes one hundred years by summer of 2011. It was started as the department of Electrotechniques in 1911 and ten students were admitted for doing research in that year. The name of the department was changed to Electrical Technology in 1913. It became department of Electrical Engineering in 1963. During the early part of last century, this department was among the very few places in India where frontline research work was being carried out in the then emerging area of electrical engineering. Over the last one hundred years, this department has played a very significant role in promoting research and education in the area of Electrical Engineering in India. This department was instrumental in the formation of many departments at IISc and national laboratories such as CPRI. The alumni of this department have held prominent positions in academic institutions, research laboratories and government organizations both in India and abroad.

A number of events are planned during 2011-12 to celebrate the centenary of the department. These include a series of centenary talks by distinguished alumni of the department and other senior scientists and a series of special workshops including some continuing education workshops. A major event of the centenary celebrations is an international conference to be held at IISc during 15-17 December 2011. The conference will have plenary talks, invited talks and contributed paper presentations discussing current research issues in the areas of Power Systems, Power Electronics, High Voltage Engineering, Signal Processing, Image and Video Processing, Pattern Recognition and other related areas. There will also be one day of pre-conference tutorials. Immediately following the conference there would be a get-together of the alumni of the department for which all alumni are invited. We request all alumni of the department to give us their current contact details including when they studied in the department and their current e-mail address by sending a mail to [alumni\\_events@ee.iisc.ernet.in](mailto:alumni_events@ee.iisc.ernet.in). The details of all the events would be available from the department's web site.

## NOTE BOOK DRIVE PROGRAM

"If the poor does not go to education, then the education should be brought to him."  
- Swami Vivekananda

Note Book Drive (NBD) team takes the above saying by Swami Vivekanand quite literally. It is an initiative started by a group of researchers of IISc in 2002 with the objective of supporting the education of underprivileged kids. The group began with supporting a single school in IISc, but today the activities span over 26 schools covering 4 districts in and around Bangalore. Also, recently, two of the IISc alumni, who were associated with NBD, have started similar activities in Kurukshetra (Haryana) and Pune (Maharashtra).

The earliest and the core activity of the group has been distribution of notebooks and stationary to the kids. With time, new initiatives like provision of library and sports facilities, organizing science fairs and education trips, giving scholarships to meritorious students, mentoring students, etc. have been added. All these aim to improve the overall quality of education in these rural government schools. Over nine years, Notebook drive has gained an unprecedented support and respect from the campus community. We request the alumni community to spread the idea of NBD themselves or help us by volunteering or by monetary support.

This group is a modest effort to transform students from literate to educated youth. The efforts, however little these may be if made consistently over a span of years, do make a difference. All we need is the constant support, enthusiasm and working hands: the vision that Swami Vivekananda had can indeed be a reality.

For sending your contributions, please find below the account details of the group :-

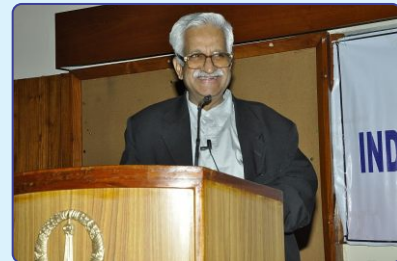
Account No.: 0683101027620  
Holder: \*NoteBook Drive, IISc\*  
Bank/Branch: \*Canara Bank, IISc\*  
MICR No. : 560015023  
IFSC Code: CNRB0000683



## IIScAA Science Forum – Popular Lecture Series

The Eleventh Lecture was delivered by Prof. V.S. Ramamurthy, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore ; Former Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Science & Technology(DST), New Delhi, on "Challenge of Science Communication" on March 12, 2011 at the Faculty Hall, IISc.

Prof. Dipankar Banerjee, Materials Engineering Department, IISc, was the Moderator for this Lecture.



The Twelveth Lecture was delivered by Prof. M.V.S. Valiathan, National Research Professor, Manipal University, Manipal, on "Modern Science and Ayurveda" on April 2, 2011 at the Faculty Hall, IISc.



Dr. V. Parameshvara, Consulting Physician and Cardiologist, was the Moderator for this Lecture.

The Thirteenth Lecture of was delivered by Shri. N. Gopalaswami, I.A.S.(Retd.), Former Chief Election Commissioner of India, on " Making our Democracy Meaningful " on May 21, 2011 at the Faculty Hall, IISc.



Shri. R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner, Central Vigilance Commission, Govt. of India, New Delhi, was the Moderator for this Lecture.

H.R. Parthasarathy

## Awards & Achievements

**Dr. K.S. Rajanandam**, our alumnus, honorary treasurer and Editor of this Newsletter, has taken over as the Principal of M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2011.

### Dept. of Chemical Engineering, IISc :-

1. Dr J.R. Mudakavi, Principal research Scientist, Chemical Engineering Department, IISc, has been awarded "Rashtriya Gourav Prashasti" by India International Friendship Society.

### Dept. of Inorganic & Physical Chemistry, IISc :-

1. Prof. G. Mugesh : CRSI Bronze Medal
2. Prof. P.S. Mukherjee : Young Scientist award of the Indian Society for Chemist and biologists (ISCB)-2011
3. Prof. B.R. Jagirdar : Invited to be a Member of the International Advisory Committee for the 1st International Symposium on Advanced nanostructured Materials for Clean Energy (ANMCE-I) to be held at AIST Kansai, Osaka, Japan during March 8-10 2011.

## IIScAA Activities

Dear Members,

Greetings and Best Wishes from IISc. Alumni Association.

The Eleventh, Twelveth and Thirteenth Lectures of "IIScAA Science Forum – Popular Lecture Series" were delivered by Prof. V.S. Ramamurthy, Prof. M.V.S. Valiathan and Shri N. Gopalaswami respectively.

On the occasion of Alumni Day Programme on May 21, 2011, the following Senior Retired Professors of IISc were honoured by Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc, for their contribution as Distinguished Gurus :

1. Prof. P. J. Vithayathil, Biochemistry
2. Prof. M. Mohan Rao, Metallurgy
3. Prof. V. S. R. Rao, Molecular Biophysics Unit
4. Prof. L. S. Srinath, Mechanical Engineering

We welcome the following new members enrolled from March 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011 :-

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr. Mohd. Asadullah Khan        | Mr. Parikshith B C          |
| Mr. D. S. Srinivas Naveen Reddy | Mr. Vyankatesh Prabhudesai  |
| Mr. Surya Rao Dumpala           | Mr. Srinivas Vivek V        |
| Mr. Hari Shankar Gupta          | Mr. Srivathsa Acharya       |
| Dr. Kulkarni Gururaj Anand      | Mr. Vasu Babu T             |
| Mr. Ashutosh Jangde             | Mr. K. Jayaprakash          |
| Dr. Alok Bang                   | Mr. Arun R                  |
| Dr. V. Balasubramanian          | Dr. B. S. Sudhindra         |
| Dr. Ashwin T R                  | Dr. Vandavasi Koteswara Rao |
| Mr. Lokesh S B                  |                             |

H. K. Anasuya Devi

## Honouring Distinguished Gurus

Following three distinguished Gurus were honoured by the Director and also Associate Director, Indian Institute of Science on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011 in the Faculty Hall. This was followed by a dinner in the Alumni Association Office Lawn.



Prof. V. S. R. Rao



Prof. P. J. Vithayathil



Prof. M. Mohan Rao

### 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 and ID card application can be downloaded from <http://www.iiscalumni.com/about-us/membership.htm>

Please send your application to the General Secretary  
Alumni Association, IISc, Bangalore - 560 012



IISc Alumni Association  
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore – 560 012  
Telephone: +91 80 23600180, 22932597  
E-mail : [alumni@admin.iisc.ernet.in](mailto:alumni@admin.iisc.ernet.in)  
[ksrajanandam@gmail.com](mailto:ksrajanandam@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.iiscalumni.com](http://www.iiscalumni.com)



IISc Alumni

Editor : Dr. K.S. Rajanandam

Associate Editor : Prof. H.K. Anasuya Devi

Other Members of the Editorial Board : Dr. N.C. Shivaprakash, Dr. L.N. Satapathy, Sri K.V. Sriram and Prof. S. Mohan

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