



IISc Alumni

Newsletter of IISc Alumni Association

Volume 6 Issue 3 September 2013

IIScAA Activities



Addressing Annual General Body Meeting

The 38th Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) of IISc Alumni Association was held on Saturday, August 24, 2013 at 10 a.m. in the Faculty Hall, IISc.

Mr. V. Babu Sathian, President, IIScAA, welcomed all the members to the Meeting. The AGBM Notice was read by Dr. L. N. Satapathy, General Secretary, IIScAA, followed by the Secretary's Report for the year 2012-2013. He briefed about the activities conducted from August 11, 2012 and explained in detail the activities carried out during the period 1st April 2012 till August 23, 2013. He pointed out that IIScAA membership as on August 17, 2013 stands at 8993.

The Balance Sheet for the period - April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, was circulated to all the members. Mr. K. B. Anand, Treasurer, IIScAA, presented the Balance sheet. The Balance Sheet was unanimously accepted.

Mr. V. Babu Sathian, President, addressed the gathering and greatly appreciated the support extended to him by EC Members and OB Team towards organising various activities.



Group Photo of Annual General Body Meeting

He thanked the IISc authorities for their Support. He also emphasized on what alumni could give back to the Institute rather than expecting from the Institute. Also, he thanked Prof. M. L. Munjal, Prof. E.S. Dwarkadasa and Dr. V.K. Aatre for their invaluable support as advisors of IIScAA.

Prof. E.S. Dwarakadasa, the Returning Officer, announced the members about the nominations received for the Executive Committee of IIScAA for the year 2013-2015, which is as follows :-

OFFICE BEARERS :-

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. President | : Wg Cdr H R Parthasarathy (retd.) |
| 2. President Elect & Vice President | : Dr L N Satapathy |
| 3. Vice President | : Prof H K Anasuya Devi |
| 4. General Secretary | : Prof U Ramamurthy |
| 5. Joint Secretary | : Dr B Ashok |
| 6. Treasurer | : Mr K B Anand |



Elected Office Bearers & Executive Committee Members

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS :-

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dr H N Shankar, | 2. Dr S Seetharamu |
| 3. Dr Mukunda | 4. Dr B N Prasad |
| 5. Dr Bhosale Prashant Vidhyadhar | 6. Dr S Swaminathan |
| 7. Dr K R K Easwaran | 8. Mr K V Sivanna |
| 9. Dr C Ravindranath | 10. Mr V Venkatesham |

ADVISORS :-

Prof E S Dwarakadasa ; Prof M L Munjal

Wg. Cdr. H. R. Parthasarathy, the in-coming President, addressed the gathering and thanked Mr. Babu Sathian and his Executive Committee Team for their good support and assured the members that the same will be carried forward in future also by his present team.

The Meeting was concluded with the Vote of thanks by Dr. L. N. Satapathy, General Secretary, IIScAA.

U Ramamurthy

President's Desk

Dear Colleagues,

IISc. Alumni Association takes this opportunity to wish all our alumni – “A Very Happy and Prosperous Diwali and sincerely wish everyone to have a bright future to be the luminaries as visible like the Diwali Lamps”.

The New Executive Committee has assumed charges from August 24, 2013 and had One Meeting and passed a resolution to place on record the good work done by the previous committee in improving the visibility of IIScAA. We would also like to place on record the advices given by our Advisors in the past for smooth functioning and work for the common aim. We would like to assure you that the new executive committee would continue to keep the IIScAA Flag flying like the previous committees. We would also like to inform all our alumni that efforts will be put in to have better visibility. The IIScAA has several programmes planned for the future.

The Second Global Conference of IISc. Alumni Association North America was conducted between July 19 to 21, 2013 at Chicago, USA. The event was well attended and many have expressed their happiness over the function. Several dignitaries from India / Bangalore attended the conference. It has been announced that the next Global Conference, which will be a 2 Day Event, will be conducted in Bangalore during November / December 2014.

We are proud to say that the Popular Lecture Series of IIScAA has been going on for the last three and half years plus and the next Lecture in the Series is planned for November 16, 2013.

The present Team of IIScAA has plans to continue with several activities started in the past like supporting the students activities of IISc, Sports Events, Cultural Programmes, Knowledge Exchange Programme etc.,

IIScAA has a very ambitious project of creating an Alumni Centre which has started 3 years before and we would like to see that the project takes off during next year. I would like to personally request all alumni to contribute generously for the creation of Alumni Centre.

I would like to thank all the members for their overwhelming support in electing me and my team to have a good tenure of 2 years to improve the performance of IIScAA.

H R Parthasarathy

Editorial

Dear readers,

At the outset I would like to thank the executive committee members for giving me an opportunity to continue as the editor. Welcome to all the new members! The new editorial board is in place now. We briefly disseminate the relevant information while the details will be made available on our website.

The 38th Annual General Body Meeting was a memorable event, more than one hundred members participated. Congratulations to all the six Distinguished Alumnus Awardees. They were so humbled when we listened to their unique experiences, lifestyle and the hardships they have gone through.

The Centre for Ecological Sciences is vital and conducts various activities on Ecology, Animal Behaviour, Climate Change and interdisciplinary research work as envisaged by Prof Rene Borges.

Let us give a big applause to the innovative work done by the two eminent Professors of Department of Physics, Professor Arindam Ghosh and Professor Banibrata Mukhopadhyay.

The two discoveries done on “Light” and “condensed matter” respectively have attracted the general public. It is amazing, exciting, and remarkable achievement series.

Professor Ghosh proclaims “We have developed a new optoelectronic device which is about a billion times more sensitive than conventional silicon-based systems in detecting extremely low intensity light. It can also store charge over very long period of time, and act as a programmable memory. The novelty of the work lies in vertical stacking of atomically thin layers of two different materials, namely graphene and molybdenum disulphide”, published in Nature Nanotechnology.

Professor Mukhopadhyay challenges Correlating the mass and spin of black holes. “Based on observed neutrino flux from collapsing stars, we propose a formula correlating the mass and spin of black holes. We pioneer that massive black holes spin faster when the mass accretion rate of stellar mantle during core-collapse is fixed. Lower mass black holes can be faster spinning, if the accretion rate is higher. This immediately demands the existence of spinning black holes as the mass varies on a wide scale”.

Please feel free to express your views about our newsletter by email: iiscaanlg@yahoo.com

H K Anasuya Devi

IIScAA Science Forum – Popular Lecture Series

The Thirty Eighth Lecture (June 29, 2013)

Topic : “Telemetry, Instrumentation, Telecontrol in Automated Network (TITAN) for the Bombay High offshore and onshore complexes of ONGC”

Speaker : **Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) P. Govindarajan**

Moderator: Shri. H. Ramakrishna



The Thirty Ninth Lecture (August 17, 2013)

Topic : “Cancer - Beware and Be Aware”

Speaker : **Dr. M. Vijayakumar**
Director, Kidwai Memorial
Institute of Oncology,
Bangalore

Moderator : **Dr. G.R. Nagabhushana**



Link to videos :

<http://mmcr.iisc.ernet.in:8008/cgi-bin/nwayfiles.py>, In the Folder Name, please select IIScAA and click on Search.

You can view the videos of the Lectures by clicking on Flash, Quicktime, VLC.

H R Parthasarathy

Awards and Honours

Department of Biochemistry

Dr. Sathees Chukkumbal Raghavan, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2013.

Dr. H.S. Savithri, Marie Curie Mahila Vijnana Puraskara - 2013.

Dr. K. Muniyappa, Mysore University Golden Jubilee Award 2013.

Dr. P. N. Rangarajan, Editor, Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences, India.

Dr. Sathees C R, Editor, FEBS Journal.

Department of Materials Research Centre

Dr. Bikramjit Basu, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2013.

Department of Physics

Dr. Vijay Balakrishna Shenoy, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2013.

Department of Centre for Ecological Sciences

Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar - 1. INSA S.N. Bose Research Professorship, 2010 - 2015. 2. JC Bose National Fellowship, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, 2006 - 2016.

Dr. Vishwesh Guttal : 1. DBT Ramalingaswami Fellow, 2012-2017. 2. Associate, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore 2013.

IISc Alumni

Wg. Cdr. H.R. Parthasarathy, : 1. Has been elected as the Governing Council Member of IETE Headquarters. 2. Has been honoured the coveted IETE-B R Batra Memorial award (2013) in recognition for rendering selfless service through the association with IETE Bangalore Centre in various capacities culminating as Chairman of the Centre and promoting the cause & objectives of the institution for more than two decades.

Dr. Yamuna Krishnan, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2013.

Dr. Suman Chakraborty, Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for the year 2013.

CENTRE FOR ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES

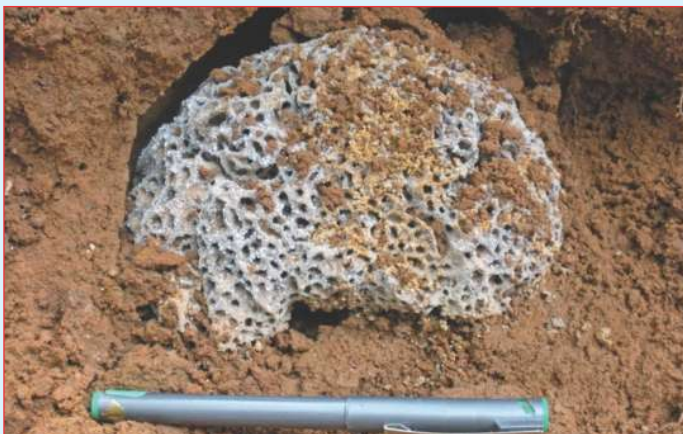
The Centre for Ecological Sciences conducts research in a variety of areas in ecology which include animal behaviour, evolutionary biology and sociobiology, community ecology and biogeography, mathematical ecology, molecular ecology, physiological ecology, conservation biology, forest ecology, and climate change on taxa, ranging from ants to elephants, including bees, wasps, crickets, fish, herpetofauna, birds and mammals.



Parasitoid drilling through the fig

The main research activities are Community Ecology and Conservation Biology, Animal Behaviour and Sociobiology, Ecophysiology, Animal Communication, Human ecology and Ecodevelopment, Climate Change and Tropical Forests, Plant-animal Interactions, Molecular Ecology, Marine Ecology, and Mathematical and Spatial ecology. CES has a vibrant PhD programme with currently over 50 PhD students.

Over the last year, Dr. Vishwesh Guttal's lab has collaborations with colleagues in Aerospace engineering, IISc and National Centre for Biological Sciences, TIFR, Bangalore to study spatial self-organization of vegetation patterns. Dr. Guttal also teaches a course called "Ecology through numbers" through the Centre for Continuing



Fungus comb



Close up of fungus comb showing white-coloured mycotets

Education, IISc. This course is being attended by software professionals, artists, and ecology students from various institutions in India.



Fruiting bodies (mushrooms) of Termitomyces emerging out of the nest



Termites on fungus comb growing Termitomyces

Dr. Maria Thaker is engaged in a collaborative project with Prof. Rob Slotow at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). They've recently re-collared African elephants that they have been studying for the last five years in Kruger National Park, in order to understand large scale movement strategies.

Renee M Borges
Chairperson, CES

Distinguished Alumnus Awards-2013

The AGBM was followed by Presentation of Distinguished Alumnus Awards-2013. Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc, presented the Distinguished Alumnus Awards for the year 2013 to the following Distinguished Alumni.

Six alumni were awarded Distinguished Alumnus Award for the year 2013. Prof. P. Balaram, Director, IISc, presented the Award, Silver Medal and the Citation to the Awardees.

Due to pressing engagements two Awardees, namely, Prof. S. Seetharaman and Dr. K.S. Rajasekhara could not attend the Awards Function. Prof. Seetharaman's nephew, Mr. Ramesh Srinivasan received the award on his behalf.



Prof. B. Yegnanarayana

Institute Professor and Microsoft Chair, IIIT,
Gachibowli, Hyderabad



Mr. K. Naresh Babu

Managing Director
HAL, Bangalore Complex



Mr. Srinivasan Rajam

Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO, Ittiam Systems, Bangalore



Prof. Chanchal Uberoi

Retired Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, IISc

Prof. S. Seetharaman

Visiting professor
TU-Bergakademie, Freiberg, Germany

Dr. K. S. Rajasekhara

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX, USA
Distinguished Professor of Engineering and
Endowed Chair in Erik Jonsson
School of Engineering & Computer Science
Director of Advanced Energy Systems

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming events at the Centre for Neuroscience:

The 3rd Bangalore Cognition Workshop, from 8-21 December 2013 will bring together a lineup of eminent neuroscientists from India and across the world with the aim of fostering collaborations and promoting systems neuroscience in India. Participants will include undergraduates, PhD students, faculty and clinicians from colleges across India. The workshop is organized along four themes each lasting three days: vision, attention and rhythms, motor systems and memory.

**Editorial Board : H K Anasuya Devi, Editor, K R K Easwaran, U Ramamurty,
V Babu Sathian, S Swaminathan, V Venkatesham**

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