

IISc Alumni

Newsletter of IISc Alumni Association

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Alumni Association in the Service of the Institute



The Indian Institute of Science Alumni Association (IISCAA) is actively involved in the service of IISc. It held several discussions in its monthly meetings to take up various activities beneficial to the IISc community. IISCAA has taken active part in the centenary celebrations and all the alumni, who participated in these celebrations, still remember the 'alumni day'. One of the days was dedicated as alumni day during the centenary conference. IISCAA has taken keen interest in procuring land to the new campus.



Towards this service initiative, the EC in its meeting held on July 30th 2009 has formed several committees —

The Institute has grown in a big way and the present campus is too small for its planned growth. The institute has been seeking a large extent of land from the Government of Karnataka. The Alumni Association took the initiative in pursuing with the Government of Karnataka in this endeavour. It is very heartening to note that the Institute has been granted one thousand five hundred (1500) acres of land in Chitradurga Dist., North Karnataka, for its second campus.

Membership Drive, Summer School, Science Forum, Alumni Networking, Chapters issue, etc. Conveners have been Identified for all these committees and the modalities are being worked out. In this meeting, the president of IISCAA, Dr. K.R. Srinivasan informed EC about the email cleaning up task and creation of IISc Alumni Google Group being undertaken by Dr. Gopalakrishna and his team. IISc knowledge exchange programme is also in the offing.



Thirty Fourth Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) was held on August 1st 2009, Saturday at the Faculty hall. This was attended by overwhelming number of our Alumni who have actively participated in the deliberations. Members appreciated various activities being organized by the IISCAA. Prof. E.S. Dwarakadasa, Electoral Officer, announced the election results to the EC. Names of the new members and office bearers are given in this issue. Increase of life Membership Fee was resolved in this meeting.

Prof. B. Dattaguru, immediate past president of the IISCAA, addressed the members and expressed his happiness on being the President of IISc Alumni Association during the Centenary Year. He was also in full praise for the newly Elected Executive Committee. Later, President Dr. K.R. Srinivasan addressed the General Body and informed the members about several initiatives of Alumni Association in the coming years.

Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented on this day by Prof. N. Balakrishnan, our patron and Associate Director, IISc.

Centenary Awards

The Aerospace Department awarded the IISc Centenary Distinguished Alumni Awards to our Immediate Past Presidents Prof. B. Dattaguru and A.V.M. Krishnan. The award was presented by Prof. P. Balaram, our Chief Patron and the Director, IISc.

From the President's Desk

Dear Colleagues

Greetings and Best wishes.

As all of you know the new Executive Committee has taken over from August 1st 2009. It is a great pleasure to see new and young faces in the committee. Our Association has planned a number of new programmes for this year, which will be announced shortly. The Alumni data base is being fine-tuned and updated so that the members can effectively network with fellow alumni and also to have good reach to all from the Association. We are also in the process of opening a number of chapters in India. It is no doubt that all these are happening with the active participation of all the alumni, which is very encouraging. I appeal to all alumni to send their suggestions for making the association more vibrant.

With warm regards

K.R. Srinivasan



“Indian Institute of Science The Next 100 Years”

“How can alumni contribute to the Institute?” is a topic that is often discussed in informal alumni meetings. In 2005, discussions in Bangalore centered on the approaching centenary year celebrations and it was felt that a study report that could define the next 100 years of IISc would be a perfect gift to the Institute. The Director and the Chairman of the Council supported this alumni initiative and the 'Vision Study' was born.

Volunteers from the Bangalore Chapter conducted 1-on-1 interviews with active and retired faculty, council members, students and others. An online discussion forum enabled a large number of alumni and other stakeholders to contribute ideas. Since the views expressed were candid and covered positives as well as negatives, the vision study team was able to identify the most important elements of vision.

The vision study findings were presented to the IISc Council on July 7th 2009, and were well received by the members and also assured the members followup action on the same. The report is available at www.iiscbaa.org.

C. S. Murali

Editorial

How many of us really take the other people seriously? It is a known fact that many people take others seriously only when others have a good social standing. This is evident when others approach either personally or through some means of communication. It may not be possible to take everyone seriously, but it is always possible to communicate the same politely and courteously. This avoids probably some false promises. There is a saying, 'Truth is the life of speech'. So, our words will be filled with life only when we speak truth, and all pre-thought false promises are lifeless speeches. Similarly, our behaviour will have life only when we speak to others, giving due respect and acknowledging their presence positively. In short, whatever the way we like to be considered by others when we approach them, the same way we have to consider others. Decency and politeness will always bring good results and sometimes unexpected fortunes. Nevertheless, it is like depositing good will in one's account.

We may recollect the incident that led to the establishment of Stanford University. The old couple, Mr. Leland Stanford and his wife Jane Stanford, approached the President of Harvard University. They wanted to donate money to the university for construction of a new building in memory of their son who died at a young age. The ordinarily looking, but very rich couple were not taken seriously. Subsequently, they established the Stanford University. This incident shows how we sometimes underestimate the people approaching us. So, one of the significant parts of our character should be to treat others equally and with due respect. As the learned said 'Treat the elders as they were, and youngsters as they will be', i.e., treat all as if they are presently at their helm. Let us feel the difference by following this.

K.S. Rajanandam



Distinguished Alumni Awards for 2009



Prof. N. Balakrishnan, our Patron and Associate Director, IISc., presented the Distinguished Alumni Awards, on August 01, 2009 at a function held at the Faculty Hall to the following Distinguished Alumni.

1. Prof. M. V. Srinivasan, Professor of Visual Neuroscience, Queensland Brain Institute and School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, University of Queensland, Australia.
2. Prof. N. Viswanadham, Executive Director of the Centre for Global Logistics and Manufacturing Strategies (GLAMS) at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad.
3. Prof. K. P. Gopinathan, Honorary Professor and INSA Senior Scientist, Microbiology and Cell Biology Department, IISc.
4. Dr. T. S. Prahlad, Distinguished Scientist, National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore.
5. Shri M. D. Mallya, Chairman & Managing Director, Bank of Baroda.

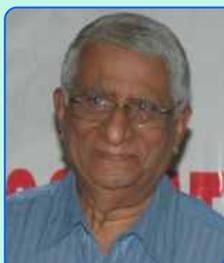
Among the above, Shri. M.D. Mallya could not attend the Award Function and the same will be presented to him at a later date.



Prof. M. V. Srinivasan
Professor of Visual Neuroscience, Queensland Brain Institute and School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, University of Queensland, Australia.



Prof. N. Viswanadham
Executive Director of the Centre for Global Logistics and Manufacturing Strategies (GLAMS) at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad.



Prof. K. P. Gopinathan
Honorary Professor and INSA Senior Scientist Microbiology and Cell Biology Department, IISc.



Dr. T. S. Prahlad
Distinguished Scientist National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore.

Shri M.D. Mallya
Chairman & Managing Director, Bank of Baroda

News from Departments

Centre For Contemporary Studies

The Centre for Contemporary Studies, established in the year 2004, is a relatively new experiment at the Institute and endeavours to bring to the campus some of the best practitioners of different disciplines in the human sciences, such as philosophy, sociology, economics, law, literature, poetry, art, music, cinema, etc. These scholars, drawn from all over the world, visit and lecture at the Institute and some are in residence for periods ranging from a few days to several months. Students, faculty and staff of the Institute as well a number of people from other institutes in Bangalore attend these lectures. The aim of this experiment is to forge useful and meaningful interaction between the natural sciences and human sciences with special focus on understanding the diverse research methodologies of different disciplines and create opportunities to rethink the foundations of our own disciplines often the opportunity to criticise the methodological foundation of another discipline leads to a re-examination of the foundation of one's own discipline. In addition to such one-off lectures, the Centre offers (presently, once in two years), a one-semester course entitled "The Production of Knowledge – A comparison of Natural and Social Sciences". The Centre is housed in the erstwhile TIFR-Mathematics building.

Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar
Chairman



The Editorial Board earnestly requests contributions from all the faculty, alumni and students in the form of articles, photos, information concerning IISc activities for publishing in the forthcoming issues.

IIScAA New Executive Committee

The Extra-ordinary General Body and Annual General Body Meetings of the Alumni Association were held on Saturday, August 1, 2009 at the Faculty Hall, IISc.

The following Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members were elected for the year 2009 – 2011 :

Office bearers :

Dr. K.R. Srinivasan, President
Wg. Cdr. H.R. Parthasarathy (Retd.), Vice President
Shri V. Babu Sathian, Vice President
Shri C.S. Murali, Vice President
Dr. N.C. Shivaprakash, General Secretary
Prof. H.K. Anasuya Devi, Joint Secretary
Dr. K.S. Rajanandam, Treasurer

Executive Committee Members :

Lt. Col. G. Rajaram
Dr. H. N. Shankar
Dr. K. Soundararajan
Dr. L.N. Satapathy
Shri Ashok Waran
Shri K. B. Anand

Shri M. B. Nagarajan
Shri N.G. Vijaya Vittal
Shri Simon K. John
Prof. N.G.R. Iyengar

Co-opted Members :

Shri Shiva Narayanaswamy
Shri Sanjay Chitnis
Shri Vas Srinivasan
Prof. B.N. Raghunandan
Prof. E.S. Dwarakadasa

Hon. Advisors :

Dr. V.K. Aatre
Prof. S. Ranganathan

Ex-officio Members :

Prof. S. Mohan
Dr. S. Venkadesan
Registrar, IISc
Chairmen of chapters

N. C. Shivaprakash



Awards and Achievements

Prof. K.I. Sebastian	IPC	CRSI Silver Medal
Prof. B.R. Jagirdar	IPC	Editorial Advisory Board Member - Dalton Transactions (Aug. 2009)
Prof. E.D. Jemmis	IPC	Meghanand Saha Award (Aug. 2009)
Dr. P.S. Mukherjee	IPC	IUPAC Young Chemist Award-2009
Prof. Shalabh Bhatnagar	CSA	Appointed Senior Associate of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, from 2009-2014
Prof. M.S. Mohan Kumar	Civil Engg.	Appointed as the Hon. Secretary of Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology.
Dr. P. Anbazhagan	Civil Engg.	Endeavour Research Fellowship Award, Education International, Department of Education, Australia.
Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar	CCS	Public Lecture, Collegium Budapest, Institute for Advanced Study, Budapest, Hungary, 16th June 2009.

Dr. Tathagat Avatar Tulsi has recently obtained his Ph.D. from Indian Institute of Science at the age of 21 years. His thesis is just 33 pages and is based on seven research publications in international scientific Journals. IIScAA congratulates this achiever.

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