



Grape - Vine



A quarterly newsletter of Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur for Institute's alumni and friends 2005-06/1

IIT Kanpur has been assessed as the best technical Institution in India according to a survey conducted recently by DATAQUEST. www.iitk.ac.in/infocell/announce/toptech/



Convocation 2005

The 37th convocation of the Institute was held on 31st May, 2005. Dr. K. Kasturirangan (Director, NIAS Bangalore & also the Hon'ble MP Rajya Sabha) was the chief guest on this occasion. A total of 830 students received their degrees in this year's convocation. The breakup of degrees awarded is: B.Tech.-280, M.Sc. (5 year integrated)-27, M.Sc. (2 year)-69, M.Tech.-355, M.Des.-10, M.B.A.-28 and Ph.D.-61. Mr. Madhur Tulsiani received the President's Gold Medal for the best academic performance in the graduating class in all disciplines of the UG programme. The Director's Gold Medal for the outstanding all round achievement and leadership among graduating students was jointly received by Mr. Sidhartha Chaudhuri and Mr. Madhur Tulsiani. www.iitk.ac.in/doaa/convocation2005/

ALUMNI

Upcoming Alumni and Student Career Centre Building

Construction of the Alumni and Student Career Centre building has begun. The building cost will be about Rs.3.2 Crores for a total floor area of about 1700 square metres. It is located near the Students' Activities Centre (SAC) and is being funded by generous donations from the 1969 and 1980 graduates. Also, thanks to the efforts of alumni of these batches, a few of their employers have also contributed for the building (e.g., Chevron Texaco Global Refining). The ground breaking ceremony was held on August 15, 2005. Mr. Pawan Kumar (BT/CE/1969), Chairman, vMoksha Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore was the chief guest on this occasion.

www.iitk.ac.in/infocell/announce/alumniculture/

Walkthrough of the building is available at: www.iitk.ac.in/drpg/alumniculture/



Joy & Manmohan Gill Endowment Fund



Mr. Ajit Gill (BT/EE/1969), President & CEO of Nektar Therapeutics, Santa Carlos, California, USA has set up a **Joy and Manmohan Gill Endowment Fund** to support the following activities of the Biological Sciences and Bioengineering Department:

- Joy Gill Chair for young faculty members
- Baljit & Nirmal Dhinsa UG Scholarship for two students @ Rs.2,000/- per month
- Mona & Paramjit Singh UG Scholarship for two students @ Rs.2,000/- per month
- Summer Internship by UG Students in Industry
- Summer Research by UG Students at IITK
- Prizes for Manmohan Gill Business Plan Competition

Mr. Gill holds a B.Tech. degree in Electrical Engineering from IITK, an M.S. from the University of Nebraska, and an M.B.A. from the University of Western Ontario, Canada. In Mr. Gill's words "Setting up this endowment was very important to me as a way of thanking my parents and my family. Doing it at IITK, the institution that gave me my educational foundation, was critical as a way of helping IITK continue to maintain its tradition of excellence while giving other students the opportunity to get a great education". www.iitk.ac.in/drpg/joygill.htm



Students of M.Des. Program organized the Annual Designing Exposition (ADEX) www.iitk.ac.in/news/adex/

Dr. Pradeep S. Sindhu establishes a Chair Professorship



Dr. Pradeep S. Sindhu (BT/EE/1974), the Founder Vice-Chairman and CTO of Juniper Networks, has set up a Pradeep Sindhu Chair Professorship for faculty at IITK. His wish is to honour and reward an outstanding faculty member of the Institute on a continual basis. After completing B.Tech. in Electrical Engineering from IITK in 1974, Dr. Sindhu obtained his MS from University of Hawaii and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Carnegie-Mellon University. In recognition of his outstanding and seminal contributions in developing path-breaking technologies for the VLSI design tools and high-speed interconnects for shared-memory multiprocessor systems, the Institute conferred upon Dr. Pradeep Sindhu its Distinguished Alumnus Award 2001. Dr. Sindhu visited IITK in August this year to discuss collaboration possibilities between Juniper & IITK.

Dr. Nita Goyal and Dr. Ashish Gupta set up four UG scholarships

Dr. Nita Goyal (BT/CSE/1987) and Dr. Ashish Gupta (BT/CSE/1988) have set up four UG scholarships of Rs.2,000/- per month. Dr. Nita Goyal is Vice President, New Product Development at Tavant Technologies. Dr. Goyal has a Ph.D. from Stanford University in the field of Artificial Intelligence and a B.Tech. in Computer Science from IITK. Dr. Ashish Gupta is Vice President, Shared Services, in Tavant Technologies. Dr. Gupta holds a Ph.D. in Database Technology from Stanford and a B.Tech. in Computer Science from IITK, where he was awarded the President's Gold Medal.



Dr. Manoj Singh sets up a UG scholarship



Dr. Manoj Singh (BT/ME/1984) has set up Sri Kalp Nath Singh Scholarship of Rs.2,000/- per month in Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Singh is working as Managing Director at Bear Stearns & Company in New York. He has earlier worked at Lehman Brothers Inc. After graduating from IITK, Dr. Singh studied at the Purdue University to obtain a Ph.D. in Finance and an M.S. in Engineering.

International Travel Support to PG students

Thanks to generous donations of several alumni, including Mr. Sudhir Mittal (BT/ChE/1970), Mr. Pawan Kumar (BT/CE/1969) and Mr. Saurabh Jindal (BT/CSE/2001), PG students are being provided partial support for participation in international conferences.

The Way We Were...

Students and faculty of the Design Programme have created a nostalgic CD about student life at IITK entitled, "The Way We Were". A low resolution copy of the same can be downloaded from www.iitk.ac.in/drpg/movie. To obtain the film on a CD, kindly send your postal address to Mr. B. Bapat at bbapat@iitk.ac.in.

INSTITUTE

Five-year integrated M.Sc. Programme in Economics

The Institute has launched a five-year integrated M.Sc. Programme in Economics. The first batch of students were admitted through the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) in July 2005. There is no prerequisite of economics as a subject at the 10+2 level.

Students of Design Programme worked on a project at Stanford University



As part of an ongoing collaboration between IITK and Stanford University in the area of design, two IITK students Aakash Kumar and Ruchin Chaudhary spent eight weeks at Stanford University and the Veteran Affairs Rehabilitation Research and Development Center, Palo Alto. They worked on Redesign of Free Force Sensor Pinching Unit (GRASP). The equipment developed will be helpful for patients suffering from spinal cord injuries, and those with restricted limb movements. The visit was funded by IITK Foundation in the US.

Demonstration on IPv6

A two-days seminar on IPv6 Network was conducted during April 1-2, 2005 at IITK. The workshop was organized to discuss innovative methods for implementation of IPv6 Network protocol. On this occasion, Director of ERNET India Dr. Gulshan Rai highlighted the importance of IPv6 network protocol and described its implementation in the ERNET Network. Head of Computer Center and chief coordinator of IPv6 workshop Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi explained the importance and technology implementation methods to the participants. Mr. Deepak Sharma and IITK engineers gave a live demonstration of IPv6 server setup. Mr. Navpreet Singh, Network Manager, IITK was the workshop coordinator. www.iitk.ac.in/news/ipv6/



International Workshop on Recent Advances in Biometrics Systems



An international workshop on Recent Advances in Biometrics Systems was organized on April 15-16, 2005. Eminent professors, researchers and scientists were present. Prof. J. L. Wayman (Director, US National Biometric Test Center, San Jose State University, USA), Dr. Vinod Chandran (Queensland University of Technology, Australia), and Dr. V.K. Chadha (Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Mumbai) were few who gave lectures on the importance of biometric systems and demonstrated face and signature recognition biometric systems. This

international workshop was a unique gathering where both, undergraduate and graduate students from all over India could participate in intellectual discussions for the advancement of biometric systems in the country.

www.iitk.ac.in/news/biometrics/

Short Course on Seismic Design of Steel Structures

A short course on Seismic Design of Steel Structures under the National Programme on Earthquake Engineering Education (NPEEE) was conducted during May 16-20, 2005 for faculty members from different engineering colleges and for practicing engineers. Forty four faculty members and eight professional engineers attended this training from across the country. www.iitk.ac.in/news/seismicdesign/



Workshop on Innovative Physics Teaching at School Level

A workshop on Innovative Physics Teaching at School Level was held at IITK from June 2-6, 2005. Prof. Harish Chandra Verma of Department of Physics, along with his team has developed many low cost experiments covering the whole spectrum of Physics that is taught in schools. Prof. S.G. Dhande, Director IITK termed it as a "big step towards making school education more efficient." A total of 38 participants from different parts of the country attended the workshop. www.iitk.ac.in/news/physics/



Training & Demonstration of use of Vegetable Dyes



Workshop on Practical Demonstration of Use of Vegetable Dyes of Khadi-Cotton and Silk was organized in Swaraj Ashram, Kanpur from June 9-10, 2005 by Dr. Padma S. Vankar, Senior Project Scientist, in the FEAT Laboratory as a part of Khadi Village & Industries Commission Interface program. www.iitk.ac.in/news/vegetable/

An appeal to alumni

Please update your address and other details on Alumni Association website: www.iitkalumni.org/registration/registrationMain.asp or send your contact details by email to alumni@iitk.ac.in



Faculty Cultural Show

www.iitk.ac.in/news/culturalshow2005/

Indo-Norwegian Seminar on Indoor and Ambient Air Exposure of Fine Particulate and PAHs: Health Perspectives

A project, "Indoor and Ambient Air Exposure of PAHs and Fine Particulate to Women and Children: Health Impacts in terms of Morbidity" has been completed under the aegis of Indo-Norwegian Programme of Institutional Cooperation (INPIC) by IITK and the Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU), Kjeller, Norway. The Chest and Tuberculosis Department of GSVM Medical College, Kanpur actively collaborated in clinical tests and their interpretations. With the specific objectives to disseminate the project findings and to share the subject knowledge amongst wider scientific and technical community, IIT Kanpur and NILU organized a seminar during June 24-25, 2005 at IIT Kanpur.

www.iitk.ac.in/news/norwegian/



Awards & Honours

- ◆ Professor CNR Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT Kanpur, has been conferred with the highest civilian award of France: 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour).
- ◆ Professor Kalyanmoy Deb of Department of Mechanical Engineering has been awarded the 2005 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in Engineering Sciences.
- ◆ Dr. Amalanedu Chandra and Dr. Sandeep Verma, both from Chemistry Department, have received bronze medals of the Chemical Research Society of India (CRSI) called "CRSI medals" (2005).
- ◆ Dr. Anish Upadhyaya (MME) has been invited to be a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the "Transactions of the Indian Ceramic Society", the quarterly journal of the Indian Ceramic Society, for a period of two years.
- ◆ Prof. N. S. Narasimhan Award has been awarded to Dr. V. K. Singh (2005).
- ◆ Prof. Bikramjit Basu, Materials and Metallurgical Engineering, has won the INSA Medal for Young Scientist (2005).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conferences

- ◆ National Symposium on Scientific Computing with Application to Partial Differential Equations, November 19-21, 2005
- ◆ International Conference on Computational & Experimental Engineering and Sciences (ICCES'05) in Chennai, December 1-6, 2005
- ◆ National Symposium on Current Trends in Materials' Characterization, December 5-7, 2005
- ◆ Winter Academy 2005, December 6-11, 2005
- ◆ Indo-German Winter Academy 2005, Jamshedpur, December 11-18, 2005
- ◆ Mathematics Alumni Convention & International Symposium on Interdisciplinary Thrust Areas, December 12-13, 2005
- ◆ International Conference on Natural Language Processing (ICON-2005), December 18-21, 2005
- ◆ Special Session on Intelligent Control, 2nd Indian International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IICAI-05), December 20-22, 2005
- ◆ Special Session on "AI Applications to Hydraulics, Water Resources, and Environmental Engineering (HWREE2005)" at the 2nd Indian International Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IICAI2005) to be held in Pune in December 20-22, 2005
- ◆ National Seminar on Engineering Response to Hazards of Terrorism, February 16-17, 2006
- ◆ First Indo-US Frontiers of Engineering (FOE) Symposium, March 2-4, 2006
- ◆ The 12th International Planning History Conference in New Delhi, December 10-18, 2006
- ◆ International Conference on Intelligent Sensors and Control, December 17-21, 2006

Faculty members who have joined the Institute recently

- ◆ Dr. Sivasambu Mahesh (Department of Aerospace Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Dharendra S. Katti & Dr. Ashok Kumar (Department of Biological Sciences & Bioengineering)
- ◆ Dr. Yogesh Moreswar Joshi and Dr. Animangsu Ghatak (Department of Chemical Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. G. Anantharaman & Dr. Sankar Prasad Rath (Department of Chemistry)
- ◆ Dr. Amit Prashant (Department of Civil Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Mainak Chaudhuri (Department of Computer Science & Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Adrish Banerjee, Dr. S. Sundar Kumar Iyer, Dr. Kameswari Chebrolu & Dr. Ramprasad Potluri (Department of Electrical Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Peeyush Mehta & Dr. B.P. Phani (Department of Industrial & Management Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. R. Prasad (Department of Materials & Metallurgical Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Nandini Nilakantan, Dr. S.R. Patel & Dr. Amit Mitra (Department of Mathematics)
- ◆ Dr. Sameer Khandekar & Dr. Arun K. Saha (Department of Mechanical Engineering)
- ◆ Dr. Satyajit Banerjee, Dr. Tapobrata Sarkar & Dr. Sudeep Bhattacharjee (Department of Physics)

Courses & Workshops

- ◆ Earthquake Engineering Review Workshop, August 29-September 3, 2005
- ◆ Workshop on Embedded Systems, September 8-9, 2005
- ◆ Vocational Certificate Training Course on Computer Network, September 19, 2005
- ◆ Course on Seismic Design of Masonry Buildings, October 3-7, 2005
- ◆ Short Course on Pavement and Traffic Engineering, October 4-7, 2005
- ◆ National String Theory Workshop, October 9-16, 2005
- ◆ Short Term Course on Law & Economics, October 9-16, 2005
- ◆ Short Term Course on Recent Trends in Advanced Composites, October 10-14, 2005
- ◆ Course on Design of DSP-Based Work Station, October 10-15, 2005
- ◆ Internet Marketing, October 15-16, 2005
- ◆ Short Term Course on Airborne Altimetric LiDAR, October 17-20, 2005
- ◆ National Workshop on System Administration, October 21-22, 2005
- ◆ Unsteady Flow in Open Channels, October 23-31, 2005
- ◆ Architecture for Earthquake Resistance Buildings, October 24-28, 2005
- ◆ Micro Machining, October 25-29, 2005
- ◆ Workshop on Design and Applications of Meta-Materials, October 27, 2005
- ◆ Role of Patent Literature in Technology Development, November 16-17, 2005
- ◆ Winter School on Scientific Computing, November 19-21, 2005
- ◆ Short Term Course on Developments in & Applications of All Solid State Lasers, December 5-10, 2005
- ◆ Short Term Course on Modeling in Metals Processing: Concepts, Theory and Application, December 6-9, 2005
- ◆ Workshop on Mechanics, Machines & Manufacturing, December 9-10, 2005
- ◆ Overview of VLSI Design, December 20-24, 2005
- ◆ Common Trends in Traffic Systems: Physical & Computational Models in Transportation Engineering & Biological Sciences, February 8-10, 2006
- ◆ E-Course on Seismic Design of Liquid Storage Tanks, January 16-February 6, 2006
- ◆ Workshop on Integrated Watershed Management, September 4-22, 2006
- ◆ International Workshop on "Physics of Mesoscopic & Disordered Materials", December 4-8, 2006
- ◆ Symposium-cum-Workshop on Complex Fluids, December 11-15, 2006