



Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

IITK Chronicle

IITK Newsletter || Volume 1, Issue 2, March 2017

Highlights

- **Prof. Manindra Agrawal** (Computer Science Engineering), and **Prof. Avinash K Agarwal** (Mechanical Engineering), awarded the Rajib Goyal Prize of Kurukshetra University in the senior and junior category respectively this year.
- **Prof. Sandeep Shukla** (Computer Science and Engineering), selected as an IEEE Computer Society Distinguished Visitor for a period of three years.
- **Prof. Mukesh Sharma** (Civil Engineering), has been nominated to be on the governing council of the CII-NITI Aayog Initiative for Cleaner Air- Better Life.
- **Mr. K K Tiwari** appointed as the new Registrar of IIT Kanpur.

New Heads



Prof. A K Ghosh
Aerospace Engineering



Prof. Sandeep Shukla
Computer Science and Engineering



Prof. Javed N Malik
Earth Sciences



Prof. S N Singh
Electrical Engineering



Prof. P Venkitanarayanan
Mechanical Engineering



Prof. Shantanu Bhattacharya
Design Programme



Prof. R Vijaya
Center for Laser Technology

New Colleague



Prof. Ajai Singh Ramdin Thakur
Assistant Professor,
Mathematics & Statistics

From the Director's Desk

For us at IIT Kanpur, one of the most important aspects of life inside the campus is access to good healthcare facilities for all its residents. Keeping this in mind, we have brought about a number of changes to the **Health Centre** and several more policy initiatives are underway.

Gender sensitive issues are no longer simple civic norms but a parliament-approved law and hence demand strict adherence. The Institute constituted the **Internal Complaints Committee** (ICC) to deal with violation and allied actions, and the **Women's Cell** to sensitize the community and carry out awareness campaigns. IITK Women's Cell recently organized a panel discussion and a film screening session to discuss the problems women face and how best to tackle these issues. Through these and many more such future events, our aim is to make IITK a safe and harassment-free campus for everyone.

The Students' Gymkhana successfully organized **Techkriti 2017**, the annual technology fest of IITK during 23-26 March 2017. The event coincided and overlapped with **Innovations in Manufacturing Practices** (IMP 2017) sponsored by Indian National Academy of Engineering and **Inter-IIT Tech Meet 2017**. The combination of these triple events was a resounding success. From talks by eminent personalities and enlightening panel discussions to cultural events and fun competitions, this year's Techkriti had something for everyone. Winning has always been a way of life at IIT Kanpur and I'm extremely proud that this year, IIT Kanpur was declared the overall champion at the Inter-IIT Tech Meet 2017.

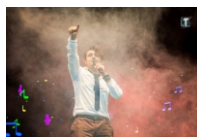
Happy Reading!

Prof. Indranil Manna
Director, IIT Kanpur

In Focus

Techkriti 2017

Techkriti, the annual tech fest of IITK, was held this year from March 23 - 26 with a number of talks, competitions, cultural events and exhibitions. At the opening ceremony, the two keynote speakers included Dr. A S Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO and Dr. Henry Schaefer, renowned computational and theoretical chemist. A highlight of this year was the expo by the Indian Army at which they had displayed missile launchers and a tank. IIT Kanpur's Design programme also held its Annual Design Expo where they displayed the student's innovative designs.



The line-up of cultural events included stand-up comedy by Sapan Verma, a musical night by Vineeth Vincent, a magic show by Karan Singh and a grand performance by Sonu Nigam on the final day. Students from around the country also showcased their skills in competitions such as Robowars and Techkriti Innovation Challenge. IIT Kanpur was declared the overall champion in the IIT-Tech Meet held as a part of Techkriti.



New Services at Institute Health Centre

To make better healthcare accessible to the campus community, the institute's Health Centre has recently undertaken several initiatives. A number of specialty clinics by reputed doctors from the city, including dental and ophthalmology, have been introduced along with cashless pharmacy and cashless pathology. A Forty-Plus Health Assessment Programme along with Comprehensive Women's Healthcare Programme have also been launched along with regular awareness campaigns.

A new digital X-Ray machine has also been procured and a new emergency room has been constructed. Complete automation of OPD services is currently underway while dedicated OPD services for students are available every evening. Referral services have also been strengthened through empanelment of more hospitals, specialty OPD consultants and diagnostic centres. The Health Center will soon have a separate homeopathy clinic and also expand the physiotherapy services available.



Faculty News ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

New Books

- **Algebra**, Written by: Prof. G Santhanam.
- **Biofuels: Technology, Challenges and Prospects**, Edited by: Profs. Avinash K Agarwal, Rashmi Avinash Agarwal, Tarun Gupta, Bhola Ram Gurjar.
- **Combustion for Power Generation and Transportation: Technology, Challenges and Prospects**, Edited by: Profs. Avinash K Agarwal, Santanu De, Ashok Pandey, Akhileendra Pratap Singhk.
- **Computational Fluid Dynamics and Heat Transfer**, Written by: Prof. P S Ghoshdastidar.
- **Introduction to Statistics and Data Analysis With Exercises, Solutions and Applications in R**, Co-authored by: Prof. Shalabh.
- **Locomotives and Rail Road Transportation: Technology, Challenges and Prospects**, Edited by: Profs. Avinash K Agarwal, Atul Dhar, Anirudh Gautam, Ashok Pandey.



Prof. Jayandharan G Rao (Biological Sciences and Bioengineering), has been granted the 2017 CDRI Award for Excellence in Drug Research in the Life Sciences category.

Prof. Javed H N Malik (Earth Sciences), has been selected for the 2016 National Geosciences Award given by the Ministry of Mines.



Prof. Sandeep Verma (Chemistry), has been invited by the Royal Society of Chemistry, UK, to serve as an Associate Editor of Chemical Communications.

Prof. Raju Gupta (Chemical Engineering) awarded the International Association of Advanced Materials Scientist Medal for 2017.



Life in the IIT System: A Talk

Indian National Academy of Engineering, Kanpur chapter, recently organised a talk by Prof S P Sukhatme, former Chairman of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, Government of India and a Padma Shri awardee along with Prof S P Mehrotra, an IIT Kanpur alumnus and currently a Visiting Professor at IIT Gandhinagar.



Aimed at the new faculty in IIT Kanpur, the talks provided a perspective on events that have shaped IITs and discussed the critical issues that they faced in their initial years. The speakers also gave some valuable insight for the new faculty on how to remain dedicated to their work, to manage work and life and also how to deal with the challenges they might be facing.

Alumni News

- **Mr. Rupak Kumar Dutta** (BT/CHE/1979) has been appointed as the Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG & IGP), Karnataka.
- **Dr. BVR Mohan Reddy** (MT/ME/1974) has been conferred with the Padma Shri Award 2017.
- **Mr. Sanjiv Puri** (BT/ME/1985) has been appointed Chief Executive Office of ITC Ltd.
- **Prof. Rakesh Agrawal** (BT/CHE/1975) has been honored with the ACS Award 2017 in Separation Science and Technology.
- **Prof. Anurag Kumar** (BT/EE/1977) has been inducted into the Board of Governors of IISER.
- **Mr. Suhail Abidi** (BT/CHE/2006) is the founder of Bangaluru-based parenting social network site 'Tinystep'. The company has raised \$2 million funding from Flipkart.
- **Dr. Rohit Gurjar** (Dual/PhD/CSE/2010/2015) has been named the winner of the India Dissertation Award 2017.

Research & Development ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Some Recent Projects

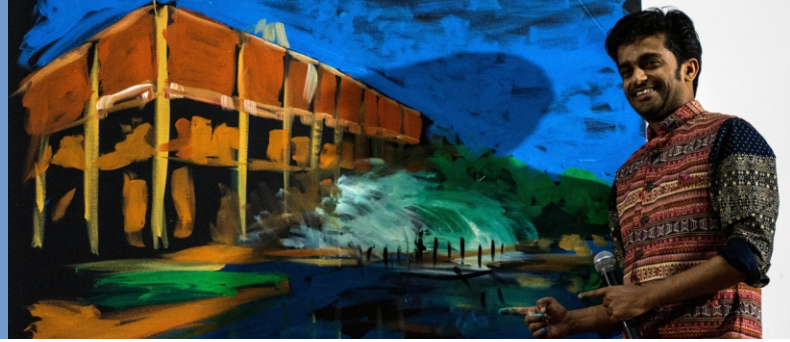
- IIT Kanpur is the national coordinating institute for the implementation of research projects under **IMPRINT (Impacting Research, Innovation and Technology)**, a Pan-IIT Initiative of MHRD. A total of 60 projects have been approved for funding in the first cycle of IMPRINT scheme, with a total funding of Rs 35 crores from the MHRD and the remaining 50% being contributed by other ministries. IIT Kanpur is implementing 11 of these projects worth Rs.6.91 crores.
- The project titled **Deciphering the Structural Role of Glycogen in Neuronal Autophagy and Neuro-degeneration** has been funded by UGC. The PI of this project is Prof. S Ganesh, Biological Sciences & Bioengineering.
- Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) has funded a project titled **System Identification and MATH Model Development for Naval Rotary Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (NRUAV)**. The PI of the project is Prof. Abhishek, Department of Aerospace Engineering.
- Prof. Amitabha Bandyopadhyay received a funding from Department of Biotechnology (DBT) for the project titled **Muster-Musculoskeletal Stem Cells Targeting**.

SIDBI News

IIT Kanpur has sanctioned a funding of Rs 50 lakh for Decentrik Technologies, a startup working on mobile units called Waah which dispense clean drinking water. These units will also help in reducing plastic waste as the glasses they dispense are made from recycled food-grade paper. Waah has so far been set up in Lucknow and Varanasi.



Happenings @ IITK



Academic News ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

6th International Conference on Human Values in Higher Education

CHVHE is an annual event aimed at developing a vision for holistic education, which includes guidelines and content for imparting universal human values in higher education. This year, IITK hosted the conference during February 10-12, which was attended by academicians from India, Afghanistan, Taiwan and other countries. There were panel discussions and case study presentations to discuss efforts that can help in making human values an integral part of the academic curriculum.



Shri Ram Naik, Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh was the Chief Guest for this year's conference, which was attended by over 220 participants.

Women's Cell Organizes Awareness Events

The Women's Cell of IIT Kanpur celebrated International Women's Day (March 8) with short film screenings and readings by students. The evening began with the documentary *Bol Ke Lab Aazad Hain Terey*, directed by Sania Hashmi and Mohan Kumawat, which talked about the sexism women face in everyday life. Students later recited Urdu and Hindi poems, an excerpt from Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* and flash fiction. The evening ended with a screening of a compilation of videos on empowerment of women.

Another event on a similar theme was held on March 25. A panel of seven faculty and students got together to discuss the topic, 'Women in Academic Institutions: Issues and Concerns'. With audience participation, a number of issues were discussed along with their possible solutions.

Through such events, the Women's Cell aims to sensitize the community on gender-related issues. IITK also has an Internal Complaints Committee which specifically deals with complaints regarding sexual harassment.



Upcoming Events

- 50th Convocation (Convocation-2017) will be held on June 15 for Undergraduate students and on June 16 for Postgraduate students.
<http://www.iitk.ac.in/doaa/convocation/>
- Applications are invited from Indian nationals for admission to Ph.D, M.Tech, M.Des. and MS (Research) programmes commencing from July 31, 2017 (2017-18-I Semester).
<http://www.iitk.ac.in/doaa/pgadmission.htm>



Students' Corner ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Anubhav – An Efficient Braille Writing Tool

Sachin N P, a student of the Master of Design programme, won the Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award for developing a new and efficient Braille writing tool. Developed under the supervision of Prof. Shantanu Bhattacharya and co-participation of Vimal C, a student of the M.Des programme, Anubhav is a game changer because it enables the user to read and write at the same time. The device was one of the 22 innovative ideas from across India selected for this prestigious award.



Galaxy 2017

This year, Galaxy saw participation from five pools namely Mughals (Hall 5 and Hall 11), Marathas (Hall 10 and Hall 8), Mauryans (Hall 3 and Hall 7), Rajputs (Hall 4) and Veeras (Hall 6 and GH1). The event included a variety of competitions hosted by the clubs of Cultural Council, the Hindi Sahitya Club, the English Literary Society and the Debating Society. There were a few miscellaneous events as well, of which the Pool Parade held the maximum points.

For more than 10 years in a row, Mauryans have been the winner of Galaxy. But this year, they weren't the only ones hell-bent on winning the coveted trophy. Mughals gave a tough competition to Mauryans and were even a few points ahead in the final score tally. The result of Galaxy 2017 has yet to be declared.

Campus Diary



Around the Campus ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Children's Book Club



To initiate the young mind into the joys of reading, and to take it further, for those who have already discovered the treasures, the Women's Association of IIT Kanpur has launched Children's Book Club. The library is housed in the Faculty Club, 31st street, IITK and will be open twice a week. The book club is being run by volunteers and anyone who wishes to lend a hand and/or organize activities, may contact the Book Club. Activities like story reading, storytelling, story building and word games will be organized periodically, which can be attended by the Book Club members only. All campus children are welcome to become members, for a year, by paying a subscription of Rs. 250.

For queries, email cbookclub.iitk@gmail.com



Republic Day Celebrations

While people all over India watched the Republic Day parade, live or on their television sets, we had a small celebration of our own in the campus. Starting around 8:30 am on the morning of January 26, the programme for the day began with the arrival of Prof. Indranil Manna and an inspection of the NCC Cadets by him. After the flag hoisting ceremony and the National Anthem, the Director addressed the audience and also released the half-yearly Hindi magazine *Antas*. At the ceremony, Merit Awards were distributed to 16 deserving employees while another 17 were given the Long & Satisfactory Service Award. The IIT Kanpur sports contingents, both student and staff, who were the winners at the Inter-IIT Sports Meet 2016, were also felicitated. Following the award distribution ceremony, students from Campus School, Opportunity School, Kendriya Vidyalaya and IITK along with IITK staff performed cultural programmes. The ceremony ended with the National Anthem.



Flower Show

The Flower Show is a two-day annual event organized by the Central Nursery of IIT Kanpur which includes a display of the many varieties of flowers, foliage, cactus and vegetables, competitions across categories and a fete. This year, the show had been inaugurated by Mrs. Snigdha Manna and over 500 participants had sent in their entries. The fete on the second day saw the campus community coming together and enjoying delicious food like pizza, *vada pav*, cake, *khandvi*, *bhel puri* and more. For the kids, there was a magic show as well as an Environment Quiz, organized by the Women's Association of IITK.



Obituary

The Institute would like to offer its condolences to the family and loved ones of the deceased.

- **Prof. D N Dhanagare**
Humanities and Social Sciences
Year of Joining: 1968
- **Shri. A R Misra**
Superintendent, Stores and Purchase
Year of Joining: 1964

From the Album ■ ■ ■ ■ ■



Construction underway for Hall of Residence VIII, which was completed in 2004.