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ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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The Convocation
every end has a new beginning

For the batch of 2018, Monday, the 25th of June was the day packed with emotions and cheers, for they have achieved what many could only dream of. It was a bright day that had fifteen hundred faces glooming in happiness and their hearts filled with pride. Hard work and dedication paid off and the tears of joy in their parents' eyes testified it. The chief guest of the event was Dr. Satyapal Singh, HRD Minister of State, and the function preceded in the presence of Dr. Rajiv I. Modi, Chairman, BoG, IIT Guwahati and Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati.

The 20th Convocation Ceremony handed over degrees to 1449 students including 584 Bachelor of Technology, 45 Bachelor of Design, 26 Master of Arts, 140 Master of Science, 388 Master of Technology, 24 Master of Design, 10 Master of Science by Research and 232 Doctor of Philosophy.

Dr. Satyapal Singh awarded The President of India Gold Medal to the Institute topper of the B-Tech and B-Des program to Mr. Abheek Ghosh of Mathematics department and Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma gold medal to the student adjudged as best in general proficiency to Mr. Sujeet Saurav of Chemical Science and Technology.
Dr Satyapal Singh inspired students to contribute towards the growth of the Nation. He said “The aim of education is to create a good human being and a good citizen in the society. The future of India is in your hands. I wish each one of you success in your future endeavours. Each of you should mark and increments steps in making India a vibrant democracy with minimal social cultural and the economic imbalance.”

"You will face challenges in the path ahead. Overcome Them and try your best in assuring the way to create a more caring world where everyone can live with dignity." to the graduating batch.

Presenting his report on the activities and achievements of the Institute during 2017-18 session, Director Prof. Gautam Biswas stated that as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework 2018, the Institute was placed on the 8th rank among all the participating institutions and 7th among the engineering institutions in the country and it stood the 5th cleanest government institute in the country. He appreciated everybody associated with the institute for their efforts to achieve it. “You will have to convert this world into a livable and peaceful place for all. Because of your training, passion and knowledge, you are responsible to bring about the change.”

"INSTRUCT, INNOVATE AND INSPIRE" was his advice for the class of 2018.

Placement Season

After seven semesters of quizzes, mid-sems, end-sems, labs, assignments, projects, and a lot more, it all comes down to this, the seven days of the placement session. Where once stood a child, who had just achieved the dream of getting into one of the most prestigious institutes of the country, now stands an adult, ready to mark the beginning another chapter of life. Dressed in black suits and ties, shining hair all combed back, full of zeal and enthusiasm, the batch of 2018 was all ready for the commencement of placement session 2017-18.
The placement session has witnessed 120 companies from various sectors visiting the campus, to recruit the bright, enthusiastic graduates into their workforce. The session saw a total of 979 students registering for the campus placements. The overall placements for the B.Tech and B.Des students ended at a high of 79.70% with an average package of 15.59 lakhs per annum (treated as CTC). The average package offered for M.Tech and M.Des students is 11.19 lakhs per annum (treated as CTC). The placement session was also extended for MSc., MSR and Ph.D. students, who have received job offers mainly in the sectors of research and education. Altogether, the placement session of 2017-2018 was impressive with a lot of enthusiastic graduates ready to venture into the outside world and contribute to a better world, a better India.

Faculty Achievements

Prof Latha Rangan became a fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences, Allahabad.

Prof Vishwa Kumar Patil became a fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences, Allahabad and Bangalore. Prof Meer Purkayat became a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Prof Parameshwar Iyyer has been invited to serve as the editorial advisory board mem of two prestigious American Chemical Society journals such as ACS Applied Nano-Materials and ACS Applied Bio-Materials.

Prof Arup Jyoti Saikya received the new India foundation fellowship 2017.

Prof VK Dubey was selected for as the fellow of the Royal Society of Biology, UK. He has also become member of the board of governors of the biotech research society of India and vice president of Bioinformatics and Drug discovery society.

Prof Utpal Borah was honoured with the title of vice president for the association for promotion of DNA fingerprinting and other DNA technologies for 2018.

Husum Kumari Singh received DBT NER overseas associateship.

Dr. Pranjal Chandra was invited as a visiting professor or scientist at the Institute of Bio-Physio Sensors technology, Pushan National Institute of Technology, South Korea.

Prof VS Moholkar was elected as the fellow of institution of Chemical Engineers London, UK.

Awards

Dr. Debashish Borah won the state science award, Assam in the segment-young scientists innovator.

Dr. Poonam Kumari was awarded the prestigious Indian National Academy of Young Engineering award 2017.

Dr. Lalit Mohan Pandey was awarded the IEI young engineer award 2017-18.

Prof Vishwa Kumar Patil won the government of India "Samanta Chandra Sekhar Award"

Prof Arun Goyal was awarded the "Excellence in Carbohydrates research award" in 2017.

Prof Rakesh Singh and Prof Brijesh Khumbani won the IETE SK Mitra memorial award in 2017.

Prof Pranav Goswami received "Outstanding contribution in reviewing award" in January 2018 in recognition of his contributions made to the quality of the journal biosensors and bioelectronics by the editors of biosensors and bioelectronics, Amsterdam.

Dr. Uttam Manna was awarded BNRS young research award.

Dr. D Das was awarded DST UKV thematic partnership award.
Alumni Achievements

Our alumnus, Namit Jain has topped the UPSC Engineering Services Examination (ESE) Mains. Last year it was Idul Ahmed (Mechanical Engineering) and this year by Namit Jain (Civil Engineering). Namit did his BTech in Civil Engineering from IIT Guwahati in 2015.

Archit Gupta was listed in the 2018 Fortune India's 40 under 40 lists of Young and Brightest Entrepreneurs. Archit Gupta did his BTech in Computer Science in 2006.

Harpreet Dhillon was named the Steven O. Lane Junior Faculty Fellow of Electrical and Computer Engineering as well as 2018 College of Engineering Faculty Fellow at Virginia Tech. Harpreet completed his BTech in Electronics and Communication in 2008.

Ranjan Bordoloi featured in the 2018's 30 under 30 list! Bordoloi, who has done a course in Furniture and Interior Design from IIT Guwahati, says he came up with the idea of using brass during his college days when he was exploring different materials and production techniques.

Student Achievements

Ashish Agarwal, Daksh Kumar, Shaurya Gupta were selected for an International Social Business Case study Competition CREATIVESHOCK 2017. They are one of the two teams selected for this competition from India. This year 1224 teams participated from over 102 countries.

Mukesh Babu and Sree Bhargav got accepted into the highly selective MIT Entrepreneurship and Innovation Bootcamp! This is the first time that a student from IIT Guwahati has been accepted into it and so far only 33 Indians have been admitted!

A recent work of research on bone tissue engineering by Dr. Biman B. Mandal and his team at Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering was featured in ‘The Hindu’. This research work is a part of PhD work by Mr. Joseph Christakiran Moses published in ‘Advanced Healthcare Materials’.

Tax Exemption

Tuesday, the 16th of January is a special day in the calendar of IIT Guwahati as this is the day, when your prestigious campus has been given the privilege of tax exemption, and hence, all the graduates for the university are liable for availing the benefits of 100% tax exemption. The notice for the same has been attached at the end of this newsletter.

So, we humbly request all the IITG alumni fraternity to take full advantage of this very amazing facility by donating to the campus, and availing a 100% tax refund. We would request you all to donate whole-heartedly, and contribute to your abode for the most memorable parts of your life.

https://online.iitg.ernet.in/epay/donation/donation.jsp
Alumni Support

IIT Guwahati Alumni support a student of the Institute, Preeti Gupta. Preeti cleared the JEE-Advanced in 2015. A differently-abled child, Preeti has overcome obstacles of poverty to attain this coveted achievement. This support has been possible due to the generous donation of one of our alumni, Mr. Ankit Nagori, the Chief Business Officer (CBO), Flipkart, who had indicated that his donation be used for the cause of helping differently-abled students from economically weaker sections. Preeti is being provided financial support to pursue her B.Tech program.

Alumni donations continues to financially support another differently-abled student, Mr. Vishal Singh through a monthly stipend.

Alumni always supported the campus in one way or the other, one more instance of alumni support that took its place in the front pages of the history of IIT Guwahati goes under the name of the batch of 2015, whose generous contribution made it possible for these equipment to be procured for different Gymkhana Clubs.

Seen here is a glimpse of Prof. Gautam Biswas, Director of IIT Guwahati, inspecting the equipment given to the Robotics Club (3D Printer), Electronics Club (Oscilloscope) and Movie Club (Shoulder Mounted Rig, Camera Stabiliser, etc) after the handing-over ceremony.
Alcheringa

The fest that gets adrenaline rushing not only through the IIT Guwahati community but even the whole of Guwahati and arguably one of the best cultural fests in the country once again etched marks of memory in the hearts of IITG Junta. Alcher, as it is lovingly called, lit the night skies of campus as it always does but this time bigger, better and brighter. The footfall, reportedly, was more than 100,000 which was up by 15,000 when compared to the last year figure of 85,000. The number of participants also registered an increase from 4500 to 4700. With a wide variety of competitions, Alcher perfectly set the stage for enthusiasts not only from Assam but the whole of India.

The fest was kicked off on 1st of February, Thursday, with the performance of legendary Ustad Sahid Parvez headlining Saaz, with his classical performances.

The Day 1 saw F16's, India's upcoming rock band headlining the Juggernaut and drove the entire crowd crazy. On the Day 2, the prelims of Haute Couture took place which were judged by the Deb Kamal.
Crescendo, the day 2 pro-nite saw the iconic Bollywood singing duo Vishal-Shekar setting the stage on fire. This went down as one of the most memorable nights in the history of Alcheringa.

The Day 3 saw the finals of the events. The finals of the group dance competition Electric Heels, exceeded all the expectations and remained the highlight of the final day’s afternoon. Rock-o-Phoenix, the rock music competition lived up to its reputation with the day-long event at the Rocko-stage in the cricket stadium pleasing everyone who turned up to hear them.

Creating memories and reaching the expectations, Alcher concluded with the Day Three pro-nite, Blitzkrieg. Diego Miranda, DJ Mag ranking #56, co-headlined the night with Mashd and Kuscher, one of best EDM artists drove the crowd crazy. Last but not the least, Alcher concluded with the promises of returning next year with even bigger expectations.
Techniche

Techniche, the annual technical extravaganza held at IIT Guwahati, has over the years developed a huge fan base amongst different university students. The footfall has each year been increasing exponentially, with the 2017 version experiencing a total footfall of more than 70,000 participants. This year's Techniche involved a wide variety of events including Workshops, Lecture Series, Pronites etcetera. The Lecture Series was graced by the presence of highly acclaimed individuals including Dr Subramanian Swamy (Member of Rajya Sabha), Dr Suresh Prabhu (Honorable Railway Minister of India), Brooks Moore (Host of 'How it's Made' on Discovery Channel). The workshops included training students and participants Mobile Robotics, Raspberry Pi, Social Media Marketing.

The air of excitement and enthusiasm was maintained throughout the morning and evening schedule. The Pronites were the cherry on a cake and raised the bar of campus involvement to new heights. The euphoria of Techniche was amplified by amazing performances of celebrities like Sahil Shah (East India Comedy), Animation Crew (South Korea) and ended on a high with the stellar performance by Naalayak Band. The hard work and efforts put by the student team were the key for conducting another edition of Techniche thrivingly and for turning it into a huge success.
52nd Inter IIT Meet

The Inter IIT sports meet is the largest sports meet organized in the IIT community. The players sweat it out all year around to excel in this single event, where you get to represent your college and fight for the podium with the best in business.

The Inter IIT 2017 was a remarkable event hosted by the 22-time champion, IIT Madras. The tournament spanned ten days and millions of memories where scoreboards mattered more than blackboards.

IIT Guwahati’s Tennis Team bagged the gold medal. The team’s newest entry-Aman was the player of the tournament and the reason for that polished confidence this unit gleams of. The women table tennis team, the four-time gold winners, settled with the silver. The weightlifting contingent of our college surely proved this during the Inter IIT tournament. Bagging a gold and two bronze medals, coming 3rd overall, and breaking many records in the process, it was one of the best performances that were given by any contingent in the whole tournament. The star of the show was Deepak Maurya, who has bagged a gold medal in the 62kg class and also broke 3 Inter IIT records.

IIT Bombay clinched the General championship at the 52nd edition of the Inter-IIT sports meet which concluded here on Saturday. IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur completed the podium. To put things together, there will always be wins and losses in a tournament, some punching above the weight and some heartbreaks. But it’s more than just a collection of random sporting events. It’s about making new friends, random crushes, getting to know on field rivals who become off-field buddies, exploring the city of the host Inter IIT, the lavish meals and the Gala Dinner, a perfect place to socialize and enjoy. It’s about seeing your sweat turn to gold about lending that helping arm to your friend in case of a defeat. Inter IIT is more than just a sporting tournament, it’s a mix of a fantastic experience with immense emotions.

“Winning doesn’t always mean getting first place. It means getting the best out of yourself.”

During the Meet this year plenty of records were made and broken:

1. Shubham Yadav of IIT Delhi broke the previous meet record in the high jump of 1.82 mts, by a margin of 8 cm- that is 190 cm.

2. Karunya Bhaskar of IIT Bombay set a new record of 1.41 mts. at the high jump event.

3. Dileep Pudi of IIT Delhi set a new record for 800 mts. running at 1.56 minutes. He also holds the records for 100m, 200m, and 400m.

4. Pawan Dhahiya of IIT Bombay covered 200 mts in 22.0 seconds. (Men) and 100 mts in 10.8 seconds. (Men)

5. Aman Pal of IIT Roorkee set a new record for Hammer Throw men by touching 45.9 mts.

6. Trishna K Chengappa of IIT Roorkee created an unrivalled record of 13.4 seconds for 100 mts. (Women).
Research Conclave

Research Conclave, a brainchild of our honorable director Prof. Gautam Biswas, was an initiative taken with great zeal in 2015 by the students and faculties of IIT Guwahati. It evolved from departmental talks to go international this year. Like the previous year, the fourth edition of Research Conclave was focused on amalgamating the Academia, Industry, and Start-ups and was successful in fulfilling the agendas. Research Conclave’18, a pool for all the researchers and innovators to meet, was held from March 8 - 11, 2018 with its inaugural session being celebrated in the presence of distinguished Scientist, Professor G. R. Desiraju from IISc, Bangalore, India (Chief Guest) and Prof Gautam Biswas, Director, IIT Guwahati.

The event on March 9 was commenced as an Institute Open Day with the aim of motivating the young minds and researchers through interdepartmental interaction, which can later provide a platform for knowledge sharing. The charms of the day were the school students and teachers (around 630) coming from different corners of the state who had an opportunity to observe the innovations taking place in our sophisticated laboratories. The day followed with several parallel sessions like the Startup competition ‘Redstart’ and workshops (Advanced Excel and Image J) with participants coming from across the country. One of the major attractions for the event was the lecture by the famous physicist Professor H.C. Verma who enlightened the audience with his wisdom. Professor Sumon K. Sinha’s (former Professor of University of Mississippi) demonstration of fixed-wing UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) and Mr. Dinesh Lahoti’s (Founder of Edugenie) "Wow Maths and Science Show" were among other additional captivating events of the day.

Second day, the campus was enthralled with the pleasant visit of Padma Shri Jadhav Payeng ‘The Forest Man of India’, who led the mega plantation drive which was in collaboration with the Engineering section of IIT Guwahati. The day followed with talks from eminent personalities like that of Padma Shri A. S. Kiran Kumar (Former Chairman, ISRO) and Prof. Yuji Iwahori (Chubu University, Japan). The day also hosted a motivational lecture by Prof. Arun Chattopadhyay (Department of Chemistry IITG) several other workshops along with Oral and Poster presentations.
The highlight of the third day were presentations of participants coming from specific departments. The event was followed by Three Minute Thesis presentation, Model exhibition, General Quiz and other workshops (Internet of Things and Advanced Origin). Dr. Prabuddha Ganguly (CEO Vision IPR) and Dr. Raksh Vir Jasra (Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries) enlightened the campus on ‘Patent writing and Copyright’ and ‘Opportunities in Chemical sciences' respectively. Interestingly, for the very first time a knowledge booth on ‘Birds of IIT Guwahati’ was put up to educate the audience on the importance of biodiversity and the migration of birds taking place in campus. The photography exhibition ‘Chitra’ and Quiz were an add-on to the series of non-technical events during Research Conclave'18. The event concluded with sustainability as its closing remark by providing plant saplings as a token of memory to all the invited speakers and judges, hoping for the world to go greener day by day.

Inter-Hostel Competitions
Kriti, Manthan & Spardha

12 hostels, 3 trophies, and a chance to battle it all out, as for what's at stake are not mere points for the General Championship, but the pride of the hostel. Kriti, Manthan, and Spardha are the three annual inter-hostel championships conducted in the campus, enabling the students to showcase their 'hostel spirit,' also giving an excellent chance to bond with fellow hostlers, and find new friends among their batchmates.

Kriti, the inter-hostel technical and management competition, was won by the hostel Barak, with the hostels Umiam and Kameng coming in the 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

Among the boys' hostels, the hostel Kameng stood at the first position in Spardha, the inter-hostel sports competition, with the hostels Barak and Umiam holding at 2nd and 3rd places respectively. Among the girls' hostels, the hostel Subansiri stood at the first position and was followed by the hostel Dhansiri which stood at 2nd place.

The hostel Manas was crowned as the winners of Manthan, the inter-hostel cultural competition, with the hostel Barak standing at the 2nd position, and the hostel Kameng at the 3rd position.

Overall, the General Championship for the year 2017-2018 was won by the hostel Barak, for the 2nd time in a row.
Gymkhana Elections

Elections remind us not only about the rights but also the responsibilities of citizens in society. The most melodramatic phase of the student community in IITG is the month of March when the campus's Gymkhana elections take place in which the members of the Students’ Gymkhana Council get elected. Interesting for spectators, a matter of pride for supporters and turning point in the lives of many contestants, Gymkhana elections surely promise to be a nail-biting experience for all the students in the campus. With loads of agendas, tons of promises and heaps of expectations, this definitely would prove to be one of the most stressful periods for the contestants. Rivalries between candidates, hostels, and departments add fuel to the already blazing fire of elections. Putting all these fantasies aside, conducting elections fairly and smoothly on one single day becomes a humongous task for the Election Commission.

The EC did an outstanding job to conduct the elections successfully and this year proved to be the best one for statisticians with more than 5000 people turning out to vote. They did a marvelous job in mobilizing the students on the day of the election. The agendas of all the executives were put up in the all the hostels and common areas of the institute and drop boxes were made available for the students to put questions for every candidate. The questions were later asked to the candidates during the debates. The debates were successfully organised in each hostel and debates on specific topics for particular executives were arranged. The general debate proved to be very fruitful and played a pivotal role for the students to decide the right contestant.
For the first time, indelible ink was applied for all the voters. Publication polls were introduced for the first time with around 40% of the available votes. Overall, the elections were conducted very peacefully and all thanks to the Election commission. For the first time, a detailed analysis of exit polls was done and was telecasted live on Campus Broadcasting System. Special thanks to Mr. Thomas Kuriakose for taking the pain in doing the laborious analysis. Overall, this year's gymkhana elections has set a benchmark to the coming generations, both concerning the turnout and the quality in which the elections were conducted. The entire student community of IIT Guwahati is optimistic about the fact that the newly elected gymkhana would constantly strive in making our campus a better place. SAIL wishes the Students' Gymkhana Council all the best in all their future endeavors.

Vice President
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Welfare Secretary
Nishant Bharti

Technical Secretary
Vamshi Krishna Reddy

Sports Secretary
Nikunj Mittal

Cultural Secretary
Shivank Shridhar

SAIL Secretary
Mehul Bhatia

HAB Secretary
Sahil Sareen

SWC Secretary
Tushar Yadav

UDGAM

UDGAM, the flagship event of the Entrepreneurial Development Cell is the largest entrepreneurship summit in North-east India, with the objective of infusing entrepreneurial spirit in students. This edition of Udgam was a grand success as it encouraged and motivated many students all over India to participate in the event.

The CEO of Nearbuy.com - Ankur Warikoo, inaugurated the fest followed by his charismatic speech about entrepreneurship. Social business conference by social entrepreneur Mr. Kshitiz Anand, the Co-founder and CEO of Happy Horizons Trust.

This year's lecture series starred Ankur Warikoo (CEO, Nearbuy), Richa Singh (CEO, YourDost), Manish Sungadhi (Co-Founder, GrabOnRent), Saurabh Arora (Founder, Airwoot), Abay Tandon (Startup Mentor, Target Accelerator), Amit Mishra (Founder, ID8VC). The fest spanned three days with numerous events of which 'Hack In the East', 'Startup India Workshop' and 'Virtual Stock Market' were the limelight.

The event 'In a Nutshell' was conducted to encourage startup ideas, in which the participants had to pitch their startup ideas in front of the judges, for 90 seconds.

The main highlight of this year's Udgam was 'Intern Fair', in which many companies were invited to the campus to provide internships to the freshmen and sophomores.
IITGAA Elections

The IIT Guwahati Alumni Association announced the results of the recent elections for the Executive Council(EC). The Election results are as follows:

- President: Arun Jain
- Vice President: Deepak Kumar Gupta
- Secretary: Prem Kumar Vislawath
- Executive Members: Diti Sood, Pranvendra Champavat, Kunal Jain

Graduation Tea Party

The Graduation Tea Party was held this year on 07 April, 2018 for this year's graduating batch. This year it started with the opening address by Prof. Ravi Mokakshi, the Dean of Alumni and External Relations. Then the Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. Guru Prem Prasad enlightened the students with his speech. Followed by them, Prof. Chandan Mahanta, Dean of students' affairs, addressed the students. The Director, Prof. Gautam Biswas had made his pellucid speech in the Auditorium. The Vice President, Students' Gymkhana Council, Nikhil Nagraj, delivered his concise and succinct speech. After that the SAIL team launched the Class Song of 2018. Concluding the event, the Outgoing General Secretary of SAIL, Asutosh Mittapalli, gave the vote of thanks. Then students were asked to participate in the photo session organised by SAIL and Students' Gymkhana Council.
Finalis Resonare

Sail team organized the Finalis Resonare on 8th April'18. Finalis - The final note in a modal melody. There are highs. There are lows. And these moments will resonate within the final yearites forever. Finalis Resonare'18 was the last informal event in which any under-graduate, belonging to the beloved batch of 2018, could attend and participate. It was the last event that the institution conducted for the batch that was to be transformed into leaders and be handed over the reigns of a chariot leading to a bright and progressive India.

The event was conducted in the auditorium which included night of awards, cultural performances and memories. A night where they had all the freedom to show up their talent, ranging from stand-up comedy, singing, group dance, drama to Magic Showcase and much more. The winners of the events were decided based on the polls conducted amongst the fourth yearites. The ambience of the auditorium was decorated in a fashion, so as to fill the final yearites with nostalgia and sweet memories.

There were various performance from lobby mates, hostel mates and department mates which filled the night with grace and elegance. With nostalgic happenings and doting and naughty anecdotes, it was surely a fun-filled night.
In reference to the Tax Exemption article
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