

Report

BSBE ALUMNI MEET 2024



The BSBE Alumni Meet 2024, held on October 26-27 at IIT Guwahati, was a resounding success, uniting alumni, students, faculty, and staff for a weekend of nostalgia, insights, and networking.

Participation and Attendance: The event experienced a robust turnout, with 18 alumni attending in person and 13 joining virtually. Many more expressed their regret at not being able to attend physically. The gathering was further enriched by the presence of the department faculty members, approximately 70 current students, 15 dedicated student volunteers, and departmental staff.

Inaugural Session: The event began with an inspiring inaugural session, starting with welcoming remarks by Dr. Lalit Mohan Pandey, the Convener, who set an enthusiastic tone for the meet. Prof. Rakhi Chaturvedi, Head of the Department, followed with a heartfelt Welcome Address that warmly embraced all attendees. Prof. Sumana Dutta, Dean of Alumni and External Relations, delivered an uplifting message, underscoring the importance of a strong alumni network and fostering connections between alumni and current students. The session was concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Himanshu Singh, Co-convener.



Highlights: Day 1: The first day featured insightful talks by BTech 2017 alumni. Mr. Sarthak Sharma, Senior Bioinformatics Engineer in California, shared how his undergraduate education at IITG laid the foundation for his professional journey. A highlight of the event was a talk by Prof. Haider, who reflected on his path from being an IITG student to becoming Vice-Provost at IITD-Abu Dhabi. His presentation included rare photographs of the first BTech batch with faculty members, adding a unique touch to the session.





The second session, titled *Reconnecting with the Past*, saw alumni sharing cherished memories and experiences from their time in the department. This session was followed by two panel discussions. The first, *Bridging the Gap – Campus to Corporate*, explored the transition from academia to industry, with alumni providing valuable advice and sharing their experiences. The second panel focused on mentoring, offering practical career guidance enriched by the panellists' diverse academic and professional backgrounds.





Cultural Evening and Gala Dinner: The day concluded with a cultural evening showcasing captivating Assamese folk and classical Sattriya dance performances by Angavinoy Assam from Nagaon and Mrs. Rijusmita Saikia. The gala dinner that followed fostered a sense of camaraderie and provided an excellent opportunity for informal networking.





Highlights Day 2: It began with another session of *Reconnecting with the Past – Sharing Golden Memories*, featuring prominent alumni such as Dr. Manishekhar Kumar, Assistant Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Shivendra Pandey from Intel USA. They, along with other alumni, shared their experiences and offered mentoring advice.



The day continued with a panel discussion on *The Relevance of Biosciences and Bioengineering – Then and Now*, moderated by Dr. Karukriti Kaushik Ghosh. The panel's collective expertise provided a comprehensive look at the evolution of the field and its future prospects, inspiring attendees with insights into current advancements and new directions.



Concluding Session and Closing Remarks The meet concluded with closing remarks by Dr. Kapish Gupta, Co-convener, who expressed gratitude to all participants. Student volunteers and departmental staff were recognised for their hard work and dedication, receiving well-deserved appreciation.



Gala Lunch and River Cruise: A networking lunch facilitated further interaction between alumni and current students. The event concluded with a scenic river cruise on the Brahmaputra, providing a memorable and fitting end to the weekend's celebration.



Reflections and Future Prospects: Alumni who attended in person expressed their joy and gratitude for being part of the first BSBE Alumni Meet 2024, commending the organisers for a well-executed event. They emphasised the importance of sustaining these connections within the BSBE community. The event featured emotional moments, with alumni and faculty fondly reminiscing about the past and sharing stories of mutual impact. Faculty members were visibly proud to witness the growth and achievements of their former students, creating an atmosphere filled with warmth and shared pride.

The success of the BSBE Alumni Meet 2024 has set a strong precedent, fuelling anticipation for future reunions and reinforcing the enduring bonds between IIT Guwahati and its alumni.

Snippet of their feedback:



Sharing glimpses of some memorable moments:





