



Director's Report

Twelfth Convocation

Wednesday, 26 May 2010

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

Distinguished Chief Guest of the Convocation and Hon'ble Minister of Mines and DoNER, Govt. of India, Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique; Chairman, Board of Governors, Dr. R.P. Singh; members of the Board of Governors; members of the Senate; invited guests; graduating students; faculty and staff of the Institute; parents and guardians; ladies and gentlemen – it is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Twelfth Convocation of IIT Guwahati.

I take this opportunity to thank Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique for accepting our invitation to be the Chief Guest of this Convocation and for kindly agreeing to deliver the Convocation Address.

Today, BTech, BDes, MTech, MDes, MSc and PhD degrees are going to be awarded to 655 students. I extend my heartiest congratulations to all the degree recipients.

Now I am going to present a report on the activities and achievements of the Institute during the year 2009-2010.

THE BOARD

Dr. M. K. Bhan completed his three-year term as the Chairman of the Board of Governors and relinquished charge in February 2010. On behalf of the Institute and the Board I wish to record our appreciation of the contributions of Dr. Bhan during his tenure. Dr. Bhan, we thank you for the leadership you provided to the Institute. I would like to mention in particular your contribution in strengthening and giving proper guidance to the research programme of the Institute. Sir, I am sure you will remain a well wisher of the Institute, and we look forward for guidance and help in future too. Dr. R.P. Singh, former Chairman and Managing Director of Power Grid Corporation of India, and currently the Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Jindal Power Limited, is the new Chairman of the Board. Sir, we are honoured that you are going to lead IIT Guwahati. I would like to thank the outgoing Board member, Prof. A.T. Khan, Department of Chemistry, IIT Guwahati, for his contributions. Shri N. K. Sinha, Joint Secretary Ministry of Human Resource Development joined the Board in August 2009, and Prof. B.K. Patel, Department of Chemistry, IIT Guwahati, has joined from 1 January 2010.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The Institute has the following BTech Programmes:

Biotechnology (BT), Chemical Engineering (CL), Chemical Science and Technology (CT), Civil Engineering (CE), Computer Science and Engineering (CS), Electronics and Communication Engineering (EC), Electronics and Electrical Engineering (EE), Engineering Physics (EP), Mathematics and Computing (MC), and Mechanical Engineering (ME).

A Bachelor of Design (BDes) programme is offered in Design (DD).

MTech programmes are there in BT, CL, CE, CS, EC and ME. There is an MDes programme in Design.

MSc programmes are there in Chemistry (CH), Mathematics and Computing (MC), and Physics (PH).

An MA programme in Development Studies in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences (HS) was started in July 2009.

PhD programmes exist in all departments and in the Centres of Energy (EN), The Environment (EV), and Nanotechnology (NT).

The number of students in 2009-2010 at the undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD levels are 2903. About 44% are post-graduate students. The detailed break up is:

Preparatory: 37

BTech/BDes: 1592

4th Year (2006 Batch): 345 (BT-30, CE-45, CL-36, CS-57, CT-8, DD-22, EC-53, EP-15, MC-22, ME-57)

3rd Year (2007 Batch): 352 (BT-29, CE-40, CL-35, CS-53, CT-19, DD-19, EC-53, EP-21, MC-28, ME-55)

2nd Year (2008 Batch): 389 (BT-26, CE-43, CL-35, CS-59, CT-21, DD-22, EC-53, EE-28, EP-20, MC-26, ME-56)

1st Year (2009 Batch): 469 (BT-36, CE-56, CL-52, CS-59, CT-32, DD-26, EC-53, EE-30, EP-31, MC-32, ME-62)

From Earlier Batches: 37

Two Year MSc: 178

2nd Year (2008 Batch): 75 (CH-28, MC-27, PH-20)

1st Year (2009 Batch): 92 (CH-37, MC-28, PH-27)

From Earlier Batches: 11

Two Year MA (Development Studies): 19

1st Year (2009 Batch): 19

MTech: 470

2nd Year (2008 Batch): 207 (BT-11 CE-49, CL-29, CS-36, EC-38, ME-44)

1st Year (2009 Batch): 250 (BT-24, CE-60, CL-33, CS-43, EC-43, ME-47)

From Earlier Batches: 13

MDes: 32

2nd Year (2008 Batch): 15

1st Year (2009 Batch): 16

From Earlier Batches: 1

PhD: 575

(BT-67, CE-47, CH-88, CL-40, CS-32, DD-16, EC-66, EN-21, EV-17, HS-40, MA-36, ME-43, NT-8, PH-54)

The numbers of successful candidates who are to receive their BTech, BDes, MSc, MTech and PhD degrees today are as follows:

BTech/BDes

BT-30, CE-43, CL-33, CS-57, CT-14, DD-21, EC-46, EP-13, MC-19, ME-53; *Total: 329*

MSc

CH-28, MC-28, PH-17; *Total: 73*

MTech/MDes

BT-7 CE-38, CL-24, CS-36, DD-16, EC-36, ME-48; *Total: 205*

PhD

BT-4, CE-0, CH-9, CL-5, CS-1, DD-1, EC-6, EN-1, EV-0, HS-3, MA-8, ME-7, NT-0, PH-3; *Total: 48*

Grand Total: 655

ACADEMIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Computer and Communication Centre, the central computing resource pool for the Institute, is involved in providing computing support to the Institute and in the development of in-house software packages. The Institute has 67 Mbps of Internet bandwidth from four service providers. The National Knowledge Network (NKN) is getting established in the country, and an experimental 1 Gbps link has already been established in the Institute. The bandwidth is likely to be further increased soon. Video Conferencing equipment is being installed in two classrooms, and a pilot project on use of NKN for remote classrooms, lectures, talks, etc. will start. The Central Library has a collection of 1,17,351 items. This includes 2605 subscribed online journals and magazines. The availability of research papers online has helped the academic activities a great deal. A number of new equipments have been added to the laboratories of all the Departments and Centres. Some of the major equipment and facilities acquired by the Institute during the last year are:

- Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry Unit and accessories - Rs. 2.47 crores.
- Backma Analytical Ultra Centrifuge package, Optical density Measurement system, Transport accessories and other - Rs. 1.85 crores.
- CO₂ Laser Cutting Machine - Rs. 1.75 Crores
- Liquid Helium Plant – Rs. 1.36 crores
- Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope – Rs. 1.4 crores

- Surface Plasmon Resonance Blocore Processing unit and accessories - Rs. 1.30 Crores.
- Circular Dichroism Spectrolarimeter and accessories - Rs. 55.00 lakhs
- DNA Microarray Scanner and accessories – Rs. 80 lakhs
- Vector network analyzer - Rs. 48.80 lakhs
- Rotary Virometer and components - Rs. 33.00 lakhs
- Flow Cytometer – Rs. 29 lakhs
- Differential Scanning Calorimeter/Thermo-Gravimetric Analyzer – Rs. 63 lakhs

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The number of PhD students on campus is increasing every year. This year has seen a big jump in numbers, growing from 407 last year to 575. The numbers graduating has also increased from 37 to 48 this year. We are aggressively pursuing the increase in the number of PhD students. The current faculty to PhD students ratio is 2.29. We are aiming to increase this to 2.5 in the coming year. With the increase in the faculty strength, the target becomes 750 PhD students by March next year.

The other component of our research programme is sponsored (or directed) research. There are 151 research staff (including 22 also doing their PhD) in the 265 ongoing projects in the Institute.

26 faculty members are being supported under the start-up grant scheme introduced last year for newly joined faculty. Under this, every joining faculty is eligible for support with a grant of up to Rs. 5 lakhs against a specific project which the faculty has to propose and submit.

In 2009-2010, the Institute obtained sponsored research and consultancy projects worth Rs. 39 crores as compared to Rs. 27.75 crores last year. Over 265 ongoing and new projects were in progress during this year. The R&D projects were mainly sponsored by government Departments and Ministries with major support coming from Departments of Science and Technology (DST), Biotechnology (DBT), Atomic Energy (DAE), Environment (MoE), Human Resource Development (MHRD), Information Technology (DIT), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Defence Research Labs (DRL) and BRNS.

A comparison between last year and this year is shown in tabular form in the written version of this report.

Particulars	2008-09	2009-10
New Sponsored Projects received	65	51
New Consultancies received	200	202
Total sanctioned value of the received Sponsored Projects	Rs. 25.75 crores	Rs.34.00 crores

Total sanctioned value of the received Consultancies	Rs. 2.00 crores	Rs.5.00 crores
Total amount received for all Projects (new and continuing)	Rs. 18.96 crores	Rs.17.77 crores
Total amount received for all Consultancies (new and continuing)	Rs. 2.60 crores	Rs.4.05 crores
Total amount spent for all Projects and Consultancies	Rs. 23 crores	Rs. 31 crores

The Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India has entrusted IIT Guwahati the responsibility of coordinating the 'Programme on strengthening of biotechnology teaching, training and research in universities and colleges in North East Region'. Out of the total sanctioned amount of Rs. 14.87 crores, Rs. 12.00 crores has been received. The projects sanctioned to the Tripura University, Gauhati University, Dibrugarh University, Tezpur University, Assam University, NEHU, Darrang College and Kaliabor College under the said programme are progressing successfully.

IIT Guwahati Technology Incubation Centre was established as a separate Society to allow entrepreneurial activities to start on campus. Ex-students of IIT Guwahati and the Government Colleges in Assam are the target entrepreneurs. The physical infrastructure is almost ready. The challenge before us is to find entrepreneurs. We have not been successful so far.

Some of the research projects received during the year are:

Project Title	Funding Agency	Discipline	Amount Sanctioned (In Rs. lakhs)
MTech Program Support	Dept. of Biotechnology	Biotechnology	170.00
Integrated Land Use Planning & Water Resource Management	Min. of Urban Development	Civil Engineering	277.26
Design, Development and Verification of Network Specific Intrusion Detection System using Failure Detection and Diagnosis of Discrete Event Systems	Dept. of IT	Computer Science and Engineering	111.72
Intelligent Robot Human Interaction and Embedded System	Dept. of S&T	Computer Science and Engineering	86.00
Design of Gear Avalanche Survival	HAWS	Design	31.22
Development of person Authentication System based on Speaker Verification in Uncontrolled Environment	Dept. of IT	Electronics and Communication Engineering	109.00
Design of carbon nanotube field effect transistor (CNFET) based amplifiers	SRC, USA	Electronics and Communication Engineering	19.50

Strengthening the research activities in the area of Micro-fabrication and Condition Monitoring area under Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Program	Dept. of S&T	Mechanical Engineering	259.50
FIST Programme	Dept. of S&T	Physics	229.00
National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning	MHRD	Centre for Educational Technology	893.00
Development of an Indian Sign Language Recognition System for Hearing Impaired Students of India	MHRD	Centre for Educational Technology	130.00
Mission Project for Virtual Labs	MHRD	Centre for Educational Technology	200.00

In addition to sponsored Research Projects, IIT Guwahati undertakes consultancy assignments to solve real problems. Businesses and Society are able to utilise the knowledge base of the Institute. The Institute considers consultancy projects an important tool to achieve one of its objectives, namely, contributing to the industrial, economic and social growth of the country, as well as the North East of India. Some of the major clients are from State Government Departments, particularly the Government of Assam, N.F. Railways, National Highways Authority of India, Oil and Gas Sector, Construction and Infrastructure Companies, Power Sector, Education Institutes, Health and Pharmaceutical Industries and Financial Institutions.

A total of 202 consultancy projects (including the testing and recommendation jobs) were carried out in the year. The total value of the consultancy projects undertaken during the reporting year is approximately Rs. 5.00 crores, and during the year Rs. 4.05 crores was received.

Even though the position in sponsored R&D is satisfactory, the increases have not been as much as expected. I urge the faculty to pursue getting sponsored projects more vigorously.

FACULTY AND STAFF

The faculty strength at the end of March 2010 was 251. This is an increase of 31 from 220 at the end of last year. As per the approved ratio of student to faculty of 1:10, this number should be 290 by the end of June 2010. We will fall short of this, but not by much, as we expect to reach a figure of 260. The non-faculty staff strength was 322 with an increase of 27 from 295 last year.

The salaries of employees have seen a major increase with the implementation of the 6th pay commission awards. It is hoped that this increase will bring with it a greater sense of responsibility towards the Institute and society.

We are still facing difficulties in the creation of non-faculty posts. The Government is insisting on a faculty to staff ratio of 1:1.1. With our student strength planned to increase to 3400 next year, we should be able to create about 50 non-faculty posts. There are issues relating to career progression avenues for staff, particularly the officers of the Institute. The IIT Directors have submitted proposals to the Ministry, but consent from the Government is awaited. The delay is causing discontent among staff and there is need to take action urgently.

PUBLICATIONS

The faculty of the Institute has been actively publishing research papers in international and national journals as well as in conference proceedings. The number of publications during the past one year are:

Journal Papers: 478

Conference Papers: 426

The average per capita faculty output, as compared to last year, has increased from 1.80 to 1.90 for journal papers, and from 1.69 to 1.70 for conference papers. Thus there is a steady, though small upward trend. We will analyse the impact these publications are having next year onwards.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS/SYMPOSIA/COURSES

Various conferences, seminars, workshops and courses were organised by the Departments and Centres of the Institute during the year. A few of them are:

- International Conference on Advanced Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology (ICANN-2009), 9-11 December 2009
- National workshop on Information Security Education and Awareness, 15–19 February 2010
- 11th Annual Conference of North Eastern Economic Association, 18-19 December 2009
- Cultures of Northeast India: Ethnic and Archaeological Background, 5-7 November 2009
- National Seminar on Active and Passive Noise Control, 13-14 November 2009
- Recent Advances in Correlated Electron Systems, 18–20 January 2010

A number of short-term courses were organised. These are:

- Approaches to the Screening of Bioactive Molecules from Natural Resources, Department of Biotechnology
- Optimisation Methods for Water Resources Planning and Management, Department of Civil Engineering
- VLSI Design, Verification and Test, Department of Computer Science and Engineering

- Mathematical Methods in Electrical Engineering, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering
- Strengthening of Democracy at the Grassroots in India, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Mathematical Methods, Modeling and Optimal Control, Department of Mathematics
- Fuel cell and Hydrogen Technology, Centre for Energy
- Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research, Winter Science Camp for School Children, 15-21 December 2009

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Prof. R. Swaminathan, Department of Biotechnology, was an Invited Professor at the University of Strasbourg in the Laboratory of Biophotonics and Pharmacology at the Faculty of Pharmacy in Strasbourg-Illkirch, France between May 15 and July 15, 2009. Dr. L. Rangan, from the same Department received the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Best Poster Presentation Award during the TWAS Regional Young Scientist Conference, "Food, Health and Fuel- Plants for future". Dr. V. K. Dubey from the same Department has been selected for "Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award" for 2009 by DBT. Dr. M. K. Purkait, Department of Chemical Engineering, and Dr. S. Senthilvelan, Department of Mechanical Engineering, have been selected for BOYSCAST Fellowship, 2009–2010 by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. Dr. Purkait has also received the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) medal for young scientist 2009. Dr. D. Manna, Department of Chemistry, has been selected for DAE Research Award for Young Scientists by BRNS. Dr. S.K. Dash, Department of Civil Engineering, has been awarded Endeavour Research Fellowship of Government of Australia, for the year 2009, to carry out research work in Research Centre for Geomechanics and Railway Engineering at University of Wollongong, Australia. Prof. Subhash C. Mishra, Department of Mechanical Engineering, was Visiting Professor, Department of Energetics, Politecnico di Torino, Torino, Italy from April - July 2009. Dr A. Srinivasan, Department of Physics, was Visiting Scientist under the Open Research Institute program of National Institute for Materials Science, Tsukuba, Japan, from 5 January 2009 to 2 January 2010. Dr. Utpal Barua, Department of Design, was awarded the Gold Medal for the best entry by the International Jury of Olympic Fine Arts 2008, Beijing for his painting 'A butterfly was passing by'.

Our congratulations to all of them.

ORGANISING OF EXAMINATIONS

The Institute was the organising Institute of JEE 2009. It was successfully organised. The year before, the Institute successfully organised the JAM examination (for MSc admissions). This year GATE 2010 was successfully organised in which 4.6 lakh candidates sat for the examination. The Institute has

also successfully conducted all India examinations for recruitment of officers for Defence Research and Development Organisation, and for BSNL. I wish to thank all those who took part in these exercises.

CONSTRUCTION AND CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

The construction activity in the campus is continuing to cater to the increase in the number of students. There are now seven boys' hostels with a total capacity of 2700. The construction of the eighth hostel with a capacity of 500 is going on and about 58% of the work has been completed. 240 rooms are expected to be ready by June 2010 and the complete hostel is expected to be ready by March 2011. Looking at the future requirement of the Institute, construction of the ninth boys' hostel with a capacity of 1000 students was started in August 2009. Expansion of the girls' hostel from the present 172 rooms to 420 rooms is going on and 124 of these rooms were occupied in August 2009. The rest 124 rooms are expected to be ready by August 2010.

Residences for faculty and non-faculty members are also under construction. Of the 35 F type Professor's quarters under construction, 15 are already occupied. The remaining 20 will be ready by August 2010. 21 of the 35 C type quarters are under occupation. 28 B type quarters, 18 D type quarters, and 24 E type quarters are in various stages of construction.

The construction of the Central Workshop, a Pre-Fabricated Steel Building of 5430 sqm., commenced in May 2007 and is getting completed. The workshop equipment are being shifted to the new building.

Construction work for the conference centre consisting of 4 seminar rooms and a food court is continuing and is likely to be completed by September 2010.

In order to meet the additional space required for increase in the number of students, the Institute has commenced expansion of the academic complex in phases. Work on expansion of the Departments of Physics, Chemistry and Electronics and Communication Engineering is going on and is expected to be over by November 2010. Expansion of the Departments of Chemical Engineering, Design and the construction of a separate building for the Central Instruments Facility in the second phase has started and foundation works are almost completed. Expansion in the Departments of Computer Science and Engineering, Mathematics, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Civil Engineering under the third phase will start after the monsoons are over.

Construction of residential quarters for the Principal, Teachers and Staff and an open Auditorium for the Kendriya Vidyalaya has commenced.

Activities related to the beautification and "greening" of the campus is continuing as should be evident to visitors and residents. Work is going on for developing a Children's Park near D-type quarters. The small lake created near the library has helped in drainage besides improving the ambience of the area.

INSTITUTE EXPENDITURE

The details of expenditure during the year are as follows. Due to the payment of salary arrears because of the 6th pay commission awards, the recurring expenditure is much higher than earlier years. Similarly, examination related expenditures are high as IIT Guwahati organised JEE in 2009 and GATE in 2010.

Recurring - Rs. 78 crores

Non-recurring (works, equipment, furniture, books) - Rs. 76 crores

Sponsored Projects - Rs. 31 crores

Examination Related (JEE, GATE etc.) and other miscellaneous expenditure - Rs. 11 crores

Total Expenditure – Rs. 196 crores

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

Alcheringa 2010

Alcheringa – the annual cultural event of the Institute was organised from 4 - 7 February 2010. It was a grand success this year with many leading artists from the country and abroad performing with their bands. Students from various Institutes from all over the country participated in this mega cultural event. *Alcheringa* has become a platform for catching up with the activities and career engagements of our alumni who visit the campus during the event. It also provides the students of IIT Guwahati an opportunity to gain experience of event management.

Techniche 2009

Techniche – the IIT Guwahati annual national level technical festival which celebrated a decade of existence was organised during 3 - 6 September 2009 and met with resounding success. There were participants from a number of colleges from all over India and various schools of Guwahati. The Guwahati Green Half Marathon started this year attracted good number of participants. The preliminary round of Technothlon (National School Championship) had over 1.2 lakh participants from across the country. Apart from the regular programmes, some additional programmes like Career Fair, Exhibition by the Indian Army, Laser show, Magic show, etc. were organised this year. *Techniche* has undoubtedly gained the tag of one of the most popular rendezvous for exchange of technical know-how among the student community.

Following are the other regular events organised by the students during the year:

Manthan	–	the intra-IIT cultural festival
Spirit	–	the inter-college invitation sports competition
Spardha	–	the annual sports meet
Zest	–	the annual athletics meet

Along with these, there have been regular events and competitions organised by the various existing clubs and societies under the Cultural Council like the Movie Club, the Fine Arts Club, the Literary Club, the Photography Club, etc.

2nd IIT Guwahati Entrepreneurial Summit (IES)

The Entrepreneurial Development Cell (EDC) of IIT Guwahati successfully organised the 2nd IIT Guwahati Entrepreneurial Summit (IES) during 6 - 7 March 2010 in the campus. IES was initiated with a primary objective of instilling and promoting the spirit of entrepreneurship amongst the IIT Guwahati community and the youth of North East India. The event had participation of leading entrepreneurial luminaries from across the country. The panel discussions, the talks, start-up showcasing, networking sessions and interactive sessions were very informative and encouraging for the students.

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Muthukumaran V and Shubaash A R G, MTech students of Biotechnology have won the Best entry award in IDEAZ 2009 - 'The Pan-IIT Business Idea Competition'. Shreya Kothari, BTech student of Civil Engineering won the 3rd prize in the national level "Infrastructure Imagination Contest" organised by Essar Steel as a part of "Infrastructure Excellence Awards 2010." At the Guwahati Edition of Tata Crucible - the Campus Business Quiz organised nationwide in 20 cities by the Tata Group, the top 3 positions went to IIT Guwahati teams. The IIT Guwahati team of Kapinjal Sharma and Chaitanya Joshi came 7th overall in the national finals (from over 3000 teams in India.) Mr. Naresh Kasoju, Research Scholar, Department of Biotechnology was awarded the "Bajpai - Saha Award" by the Society for Biomaterials and Artificial Organs India (SBAOI) for the best student paper presentation at the "International Conference on Biomaterials, Artificial Organs and Tissue Engineering". Mohit Goel, Department of Biotechnology was selected as a Khorana Scholar 2010 by the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum and the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. FirstWords: Deluxe, an iPhone application developed among others by Abhimanyu Kumar, during his internship at Learning Touch (Boston, USA), was adjudged the second Best Application for Toddlers in MacWorld Expo 2010 held in San Francisco, USA.

TRAINING AND PLACEMENT

The on campus placement scenario at IIT Guwahati for the year 2009-2010 has remained satisfactory, although the effects of the downturn in the global economy continue to be felt. 79 companies from various sectors participated in the recruitment. A total of 601 students (BTech: 303, BDes: 21, MTech: 197, MDes: 15, MSc: 65) were registered with the Training and Placement Cell.

263 job offers were made to the BTech/BDes students and 243 students were finally placed (75%). The highest package offered to BTech students is Rs. 14.00 lakhs per annum with an average package of Rs. 6.08 lakhs per annum.

For MTech and MDes, 81 jobs were offered. The highest package offered to MTech students is Rs. 12.03 lakhs per annum with an average package of Rs. 5.30 lakhs per annum.

The branch-wise placement details are:

Dept.	UG				PG (MTech)			
	No. of student Registered	Total No. of Jobs	No. of Student Placed	% Placed	No. of student Registered	Total No. of Jobs	No. of student Placed	% Placed
CSE	50	56	46	92	35	28	25	71
ECE	48	41	39	81	38	14	14	37
ME	53	46	45	85	44	17	17	39
CE	44	37	36	82	43	17	17	40
CL	35	25	24	69	28	1	1	4
BT	26	8	8	31	9	2	2	22
CST	14	3	3	21	--	--	--	--
EP	15	9	9	60	--	--	--	--
M&C	18	18	15	83	--	--	--	--
DD	21	20	18	86	15	2	2	13
PH (MSc)	11	1	1	9	--	--	--	--
CH (MSc)	27	0	0	--	--	--	--	--
M&C (MSc)	27	0	0	--	--	--	--	--

CLOSING REMARKS

IIT Guwahati has a student strength of 3000 and faculty size of 260. We have set a target to double our student strength to 6000 in the next 6 years. As the student strength was 1400 in May 2005, we have more doubled our strength in the last 5 years. So our target can be achieved. But there are many challenges. Besides issues regarding the infrastructure that has to be set up to meet the expansion, recruitment of faculty and technical staff are the biggest challenges. For faculty, we have to step up the recruitment process. In the last few years we have been able to add on an average about 30 faculty per year. This has to be stepped up to about 70 per year. For staff appointments, the process of creation of posts must be speeded up. We are hopeful this will happen soon.

The Institute has started reaching out beyond our country's borders. But this has been mostly as reactions to initiatives by institutions from Europe, Australia and

Singapore. We have signed a number of MOUs and interactions have started with a few. The time has come for IIT Guwahati to take pro-active action in such outreach programmes. Exchange programmes of research students and faculty are important, as are collaborative R&D projects. We also have to be more aggressive in getting visiting faculty from abroad. So far we have admitted very few foreign students. Our task is to significantly increase the presence of foreign students on campus. We have to modify our admission processes, we have to actively reach out, and we have to create appropriate infrastructure. We can find our place as a world class institute only if we have a good international presence on our campus.

My dear graduating students, we need your support in the years to come. Please keep in touch with us. We have set up an alumni portal and I urge you to keep us informed of your whereabouts. I wish all of you success in life and I am confident you will excel in your careers and will so bring glory to IIT Guwahati.

Jai Hind.

Gautam Barua
Director
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati