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From the Director's Desk



October is a month of festivals. At IIITB, we had our share of festivities including Ayudha Puja, soon after a week-long mid-term examination. This year the festival week coincided with the mid-term break. So, everyone is back from vacation with full of energy.

Hoping everyone in IIITB family had a very happy Deepavali.

October 2016 is the month of announcements of Nobel Prizes. Interestingly, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced on October 5, that the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 is awarded to Jean-Pierre Sauvage, University of Strasbourg (France), Sir J. Fraser Stoddart, Northwestern University (USA), and Bernard L. Feringa, University of Groningen (the Netherlands) for "the design and synthesis of molecular machines." The Academy mentioned the following in their announcement: "They developed the world's smallest machine. A tiny lift, artificial muscles and minuscule motors." They said that the scientists have taken Chemistry to a new dimension, in their venture to revolutionizing computing by miniaturization.

More details can be found here:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2016/press.html

-----HAPPY READING!-----

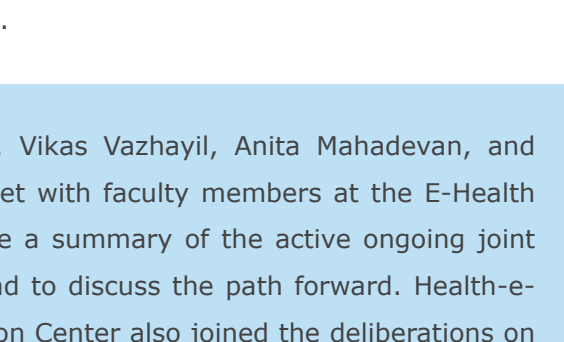
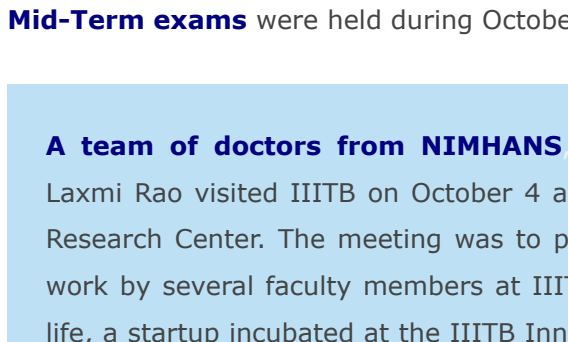
Achievements

Chandana Kotta (IMT2014027), Sandeep Tadepalli (IMT2014056) and Shashank Motepalli, (IMT2014048) have secured **2nd position in Watson Cognitive Challenge**, conducted by IBM Research. They presented their application to academia and researchers at I-CARE Conference held during October 14-15. They developed a news chat bot, with machine learning techniques powered by Watson.

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development, India (MBRDI) conducted "**HACK BANGALORE**" hackathon on October 21-22 at Taj Vivantha, Whitefield, Bengaluru. Hack Bangalore was the Indian edition of the hackathon conducted by Digital Life@Daimler across 5 different countries around the world.

Themes of the Hackathon were:

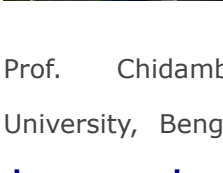
- 1) Digital Workplace
- 2) Connected Cars.



A-team (Devarsh K. U. (IMT2013012), Meghana M. Reddy (IMT2013025), Pranay Dugar (IMT2013030), Rajesh D. M. (IMT2013032), S. L. V. Krishnakumar (IMT2013050)) won the "**second runners up**" with the prize money of **Rs 1,00,000/-**. A-Team's idea for the hackathon was to provide "driver distraction awareness" based on the driver's actions and scenario around the car or its location, thus giving the driver an informed decision in the form of a voice output of one of the driver's contacts.

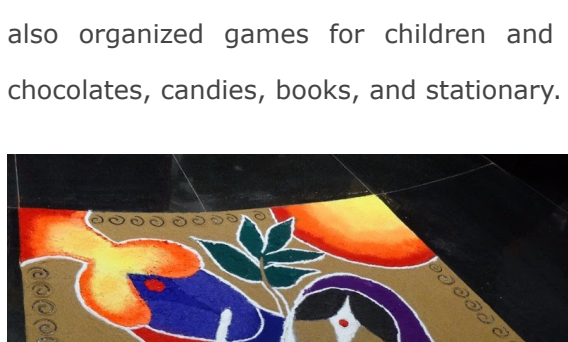
The team D' Maniacs (Suparna Ghanvatkar MT2016138), Nishant Oli (MT2016096), Piyush Joshi (MT2016103), Arnab Chakraborty (MT2016023) won the award for the Best "Team Efforts" and also won a prize money of INR 50000/-. The team D' Maniacs chose the theme of "Digital Workplace". They had attempted to solve the long-standing problem of "In-Building Location Detection and Navigation," and in the process, they created a better solution for overall "Security and Safety of An Employee".

Campus News



Mid-Term exams were held during October 3-8.

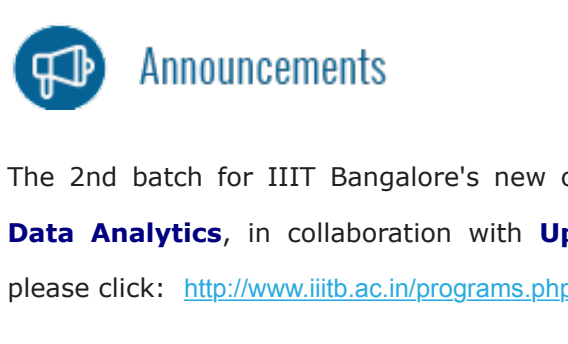
A team of doctors from NIMHANS Drs. Vikas Vazhayil, Anita Mahadevan, and Laxmi Rao visited IIITB on October 4 and met with faculty members at the E-Health Research Center. The meeting was to provide a summary of the active ongoing joint work by several faculty members at IIITB and to discuss the path forward. Health-e-life, a startup incubated at the IIITB Innovation Center also joined the deliberations on further project development.



Prof. S. C. Sharma took over as the **Director of IIIT Dharwad** from Prof. S. Sadagopan on October 3. Prof. Sharma is the former Vice-Chancellor of Tumkur University. IIIT Bangalore is mentoring IIIT Dharwad, and Prof. S. Sadagopan continues to be the Member Secretary of the Board of Governors of IIIT Dharwad.

53rd Senate Meeting of IIITB was held on October 5.

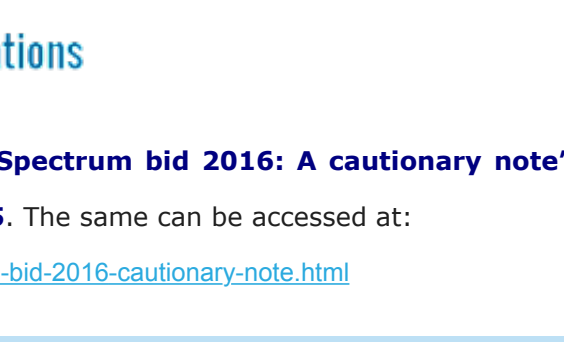
Ayudha Puja was celebrated on campus on October 10.



There has been a **change of caterer in the hostel mess** to M/S Master Chef Caterers, on October 16.

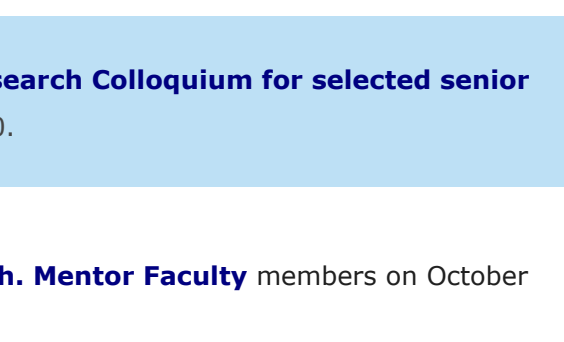
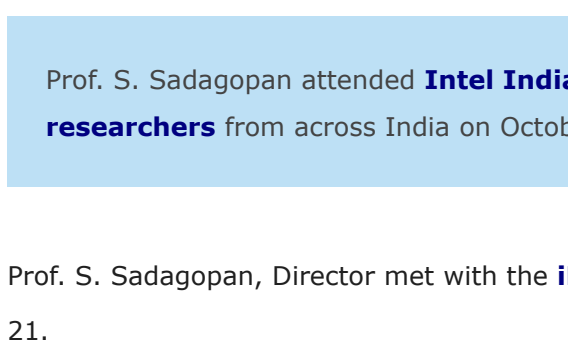
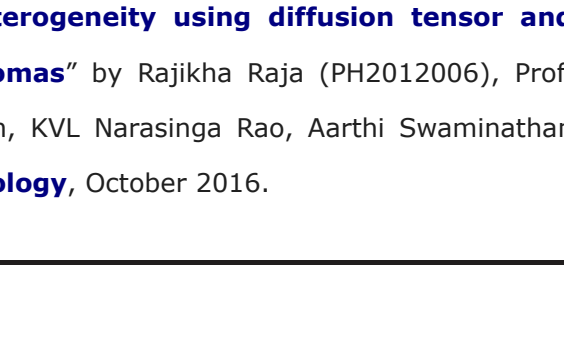
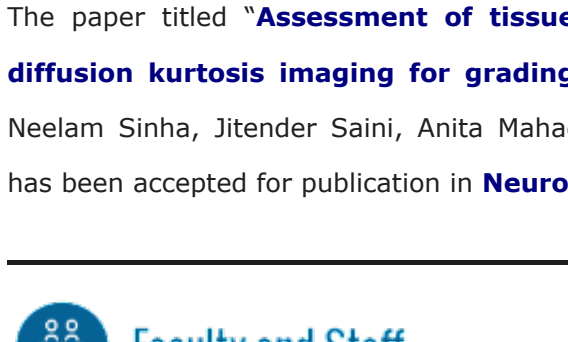
Prof. Chidambaram Kalamani, PES University, Bengaluru conducted a **two-day hands-on workshop on Compu Music** during October 22-23.

The workshop broadly involved composing and generating music, especially, Indian light music through the audio programming language - ChuckK.

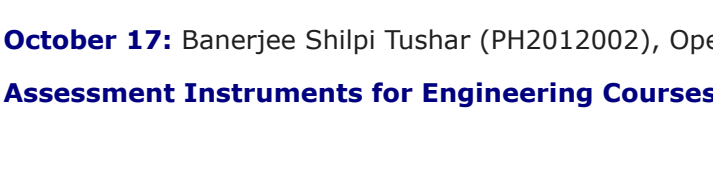


Online application submission for **admissions to Master of Science by Research and Ph.D. programs** for Term II (2016-17) closed on October 25.

As a part of on-campus Deepavali celebrations on October 29, the students started an initiative, "**Light a Candle to Make a Difference**," for celebrating the festival with families of housekeeping and security staff members. The focus was to provide experiences of memorable festivities for their children. The proceeds of the fundraiser, which was organized by the students before the event, were used for gifting sweet boxes to the families. Students also organized games for children and offered them several gifts, such as balloons, chocolates, candies, books, and stationary.



The 2nd batch for IIIT Bangalore's new online program, the **11-month PG Diploma in Data Analytics**, in collaboration with **UpGrad** starts in March 2017. For more details, please click: <http://www.iiitb.ac.in/programs.php?pid=PG-Diploma---Data-Analytics>



The article authored by Prof. V. Sridhar titled "**Spectrum bid 2016: A cautionary note**" has appeared in **Deccan Herald** on **October 15**. The same can be accessed at: <http://www.deccanherald.com/content/575852/spectrum-bid-2016-cautionary-note.html>

Anushka Chandrababu (PH2012001) presented the paper titled "**Convex Model Databases – Solving real world OR problems**," co-authored by Abhilasha Aswal (PH2009001) and Prof. G. N. Srinivasa Prasanna at IBM ICARE Conference, Bangalore, 2016 held during October 14-15.

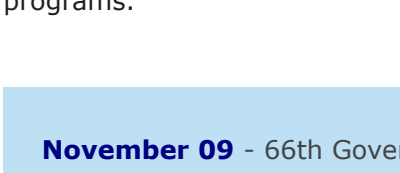
The article authored by Prof. V. Sridhar and Mr. Krunal Sagan, co-founder of Epeccate (IIITB incubated start-up) titled "**Technology to the assistance of the flipped classroom model**" has appeared in Live Mint on October 19. The same can be accessed at:

<http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/UKFLVnN5izR7hZzd18y9L/Technology-to-the-assistance-of-the-flipped-classroom-model.htm>

Perit Jain (IMT2012033) presented a paper, jointly authored with Haripriya Bendapudi (IMT2012018) under the supervision of Prof. Shrisha Rao, at COMPUTE 2016, the Ninth Annual ACM India conference held at Gandhinagar, on October 22.

Citation: Perit Jain, Haripriya Bendapudi, Shrisha Rao. **EEQuest: An Event Extraction and Query System**. COMPUTE 2016: Ninth Annual ACM India Conference, Gandhinagar, India. DOI:10.1145/2998476.2998482.

The paper titled "**Assessment of tissue heterogeneity using diffusion tensor and diffusion kurtosis imaging for grading gliomas**" by Rajikha Raja (PH2012006), Prof. Neelam Sinha, Jitender Saini, Anita Mahadevan, KVL Narasinga Rao, Aarthi Swaminathan has been accepted for publication in **Neuroradiology**, October 2016.



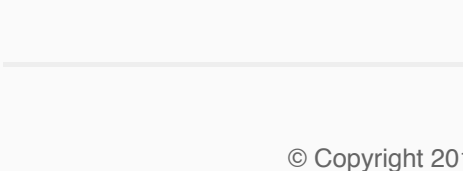
Prof. S. Sadagopan attended **Intel India Research Colloquium for selected senior researchers** from across India on October 20.

Prof. S. Sadagopan, Director met with the **iMtech. Mentor Faculty** members on October 21.

The Registrar organized an **interactive session between the Institute Counselor, Dr. Nalini Dwarkanath**, with the iMtech. Mentor faculty, program coordinators, and hostel wardens on October 26. The session helped in both parties to understand various issues our students' face due to the academics as well as other aspects of their stay in the Institute.

There are new faces and roles on campus. Details of their joining:

October 3: Mr. Madhusudhan, Head – Accounts and Finance.



October 17: Banerjee Shilpi Tushar (PH2012002), Open Seminar on "**Design of Quality Assessment Instruments for Engineering Courses**".

October 27: Sita Kondamadugula (PH2010904), State of the Art Seminar on "**Parameter-importance based Methods for Variation-aware Analog Yield Optimization**".

October 28: Prashant Wali (PH2012005), Open Seminar on "**Energy Efficient Medium Access Control Algorithms for LTE-Advanced**".

October 28: Anushka Chandrababu (PH2012001), State of the Art Seminar on "**Convex Model Databases**".

October 19: Dr. Nandakumar Nambath Purushothaman, Department of EE, IIT Bombay on "**High-Speed Integrated Circuits for Analog Domain Signal Processing Based DP-QPSK Receivers**".

October 19: Dr. Ramesh Kumar, STO, Eduquity, on "Frugal Innovation for Complex Problems".

October 26: Sharad B. Nalawade, former Director – Business Transformation at Cisco Systems, on "**Business Transformation with Digital Technologies**".

October 26: Dr. Pulak Ranjan Giri, the International Institute of Physics, UFRN, Natal, Brazil, on "**Isotropic Heisenberg spin-1/2 chain**".

October 13: Prof. Srinivasan Krishnamachari, Distinguished Professor of Information Technology, Dept. of Information Technology, Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar, Assam.

November 01 - Holiday (Kannada Rajyotsava Day)

November 08 - Notification of shortlist of applicants for interview and written exam (optional) for admissions to Master of Science by Research and Doctor of Philosophy programs.

November 09 - 66th Governing Body Meeting

November 09 - "An introduction to Blockchain technologies," talk by Mr. R. R. Cherla (Raj)

November 09 - Bihu folk dance by Shri Ranjit Kumar Gogoi and group, organized by SPICMACAY, IIITB.

November 11 - CITAPP workshop on "digital financial platforms and inclusion," organized by Prof. Janaki Srinivasan.

November 21 - Week of the interview and written exam (optional) for admissions to Master of Science by Research and Doctor of Philosophy programs.

November 22 (or 23) - Nada yoga by Dr. Kiran Seth, organized by SPICMACAY, IIITB.

November 29 - Notification of final results for admissions to Master of Science by Research and Doctor of Philosophy programs.