



International
Institute of Information
Technology Bangalore

Newsletter | April 2017



Inside this Issue

- FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK
- ACHIEVEMENTS
- CAMPUS NEWS
- CAMPUS CALENDAR FOR MAY

From the Director's Desk



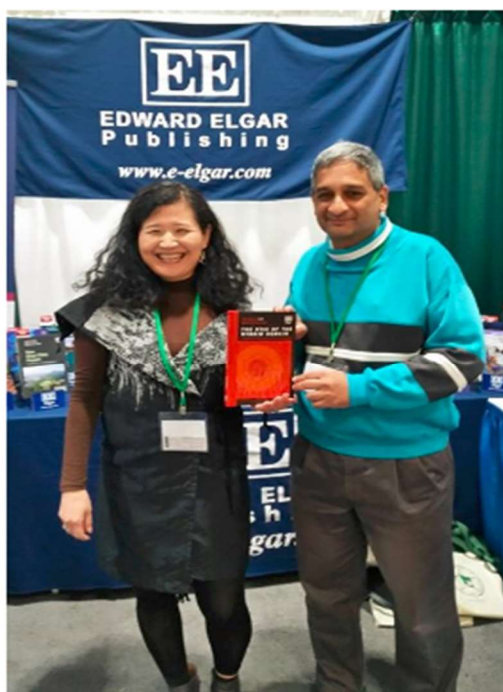
April 2017 was the month of collaborative events at IIIT-B. The month began well for IIIT-B with the inauguration (ribbon cutting ceremony) of our new Infosys Academic Block. We revived our open house event in a new way – we conducted RISE (Research, Innovation, Society, and Entrepreneurship) @ IIIT-B. RISE @IIIT-B had the open house, Ph.D. colloquium, and talks by external speakers from academia and industry, and IIIT-B faculty members. Students organized and participated in their intra-collegiate annual sports event, SPANDAN. Inauguration of the workshop on Big Data Engineering organized by Prof. Srinath Srinivasa and his lab lined up speakers from inside and outside of IIIT-B. Prof. Sridhar spearheaded the inauguration of ICANN 58 Readout Session.

April was special elsewhere in the world with the announcement of 2016 Turing Award. Sir Tim Berners-Lee is the recipient for his invention of the World Wide Web. He was the Chief Guest (along with former President of India, A. P. J. Abdul Kalam) for the WWW2011 Conference that came to India for the first time, in March 2011. IIIT-B had hosted WWW2011 in Hyderabad. Elsewhere outside the world, on April 26, the spacecraft Cassini,

which is a joint endeavor of NASA, ESA, and Italian Space Agency, entered Saturn and started its grand finale of a series of dives between Saturn and its rings.

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

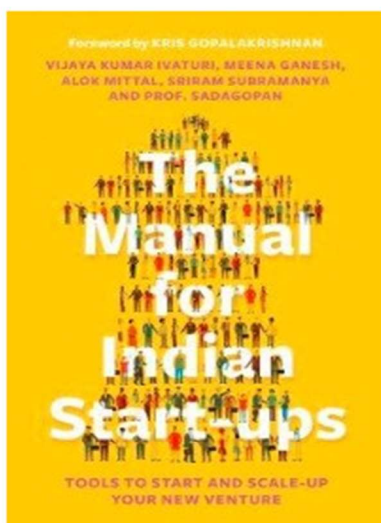
Achievements



Balaji Parthasarathy was part of a special **"Authors meet Critics"** session at the **Association of American Geographers (AAG) annual conference in Boston** during April 5-9, to discuss his December 2016 book, **"The Rise of the Hybrid Domain: Collaborative Governance for Social Innovation"**, which was co-authored by Yuko Aoyama (<http://www.e-elgar.com/shop/the-rise-of-the-hybrid-domain>). The critics were Erica Schoenberger (Johns Hopkins University), Bishwapriya Sanyal (MIT) and Michael Storper (UCLA/Sciences Po, Paris). The discussion was moderated by Rory Horner (University of Manchester).

Team DManiax (Aman Tanwar (MT2016008), Arnav Chakraborty (MT2016023), Nishant Oli (MT2016023) and Piyush Joshi (MT2016103)) has won the **first runners-up at "Cryptothon" Hackathon**, which was organized by Unocoin on April 8. The theme of the hackathon was **"Re-imagining the future of India with Bitcoin"**. Team DManiax had developed a product called HyperBit, which is a bitcoin sensitive solution to the disbursement of daily wages of workers who need to reach milestones in a whole day.





The launch of the book "**The Manual for Indian Start-ups**," authored by Ivaturi V. K., Alok Mittal, Meena Ganesh and Prof. Sadagopan and published by Penguin 2017, was organized at the CII Annual Event on April 29 in New Delhi. The book was launched by the Cabinet Secretary P. K. Sinha, DIPP Secretary Ramesh Abhishek and DIT Secretary Aruna Sundararajan. The session was chaired by DG of CII and President-designate Shobhana Kamineni.

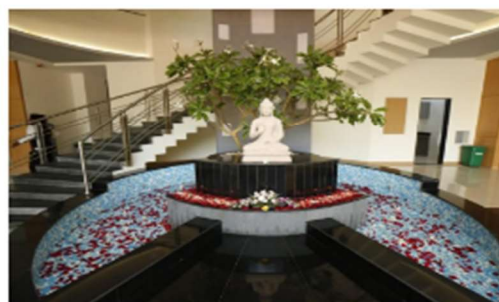
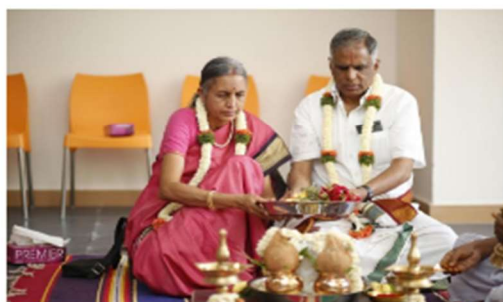


Jaya Sreevalsan Nair is the recipient of the **Early Career Research Award** by the Science and Engineering Research Board, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. She has received the award for her proposal on "Tensor Modeling and Visualization of Three-dimensional Geospatial Datasets".

Events

The inauguration of “**Infosys Academic Block**” was held on April 3. The new academic block, which is a milestone for IIIT-B, has been funded by Infosys Foundation. Mr. S. Gopalakrishnan (Chairman Governing Body, IIIT-B, Executive Vice chairman, Infosys) inaugurated the building in the presence of Prof. S. Sadagopan (Director, IIIT-B); Mrs. Sudha Murthy (Chairperson, Infosys Foundation); Mr. B. V. Naidu (Chairman, Sagitaur Ventures Pvt Ltd); Mr. Gautam Hegde (Managing Director, Backend Bangalore Private Limited); Mr. Naresh Shah (President EG India R&D Hewlett Packard Enterprise); Mr. Vivek Kulkarni (Retd. IAS); Prof. H.N. Mahabala; Faculty and Staff members of IIIT-B.

Photos: <https://qoo.ql/photos/1musikinqZ6xnfPu6>



The first edition of **RISE 2017** event was conducted over 3 days during April 7-9, witnessed good response from potential students and industry. The Ph.D. colloquium was held on April 7, where eight papers by our Ph.D. scholars were presented. The papers were selected from different areas through an internal review process. The Open House was conducted on April 8, which was attended by around 75 external students as well as working executives from the IT industry. Dr. Rajendra Kumar Bera gave the keynote speech on the day. In his talk, Dr. Bera emphasized on different aspects of research activities. IIIT-B faculty made domain-wise presentations of their research interests and active projects. The Open Studio was held on April 9, and was inaugurated by the Director Prof. S. Sadagopan. Industry luminaries, investors, founders of start-ups, research heads of industry technology labs, and few faculty members shared their experience and thoughts on how research-led innovation can be lucrative for research students as well as faculty alike. Around 70 entrepreneurs and students attended the

students as well as faculty alike. Around 70 entrepreneurs and students attended the Open Studio.



IIIT-B Mobile App was launched at RISE 2017 event, held on April 7 - 9.

IIIT-B App
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ANDROID APP ON Google play

An interactive session for **IT/ITES companies** to address perceived issues relating to **GST**

An interactive session for **IT/ITES companies** to address perceived issues relating to **GST** was held on April 6 at IIIT-B. Mr. Vinod Kumar, Chief Commissioner, Central Excise & Service Tax, Bengaluru led the interactive session addressing issues relating to GST. Mr. Sriram, Commissioner Service Tax, Mr. Narayanswamy, Commissioner Service Tax, Mr. Vivek Prasad, Commissioner Service Tax Audit & ADG Tax Payer Services and Ms. Rama, CEO, ELCITA participated in the session.



IIIT-B Innovation Centre Board Meeting was held on April 17.

ICANN 58 Readout session was hosted by IIIT-B on April 21. There were 30 attendees in person; 10 present at NIXI hub at New Delhi; and 10-15 joined online from different locations. After the welcome address by Prof. Sadagopan, Director of IIIT-B, Mr. Samiran Gupta, India Head, ICANN presented highlights of the Copenhagen (ICANN 58) meeting of ICANN. This was followed by a presentation on ICANN's Government Advisory Committee (GAC) by Mr. Pradeep Kumar Verma, Scientist, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) from the host location at IIIT-B. Next, Neha Naik, Director, Channel Partnerships, Radix gave an interesting overview of the new generic Top Level Domains (ngTLDs) and the business cases for the same from her location at Mumbai. Brajesh Jain, Member, Numbers Resource Organisation from NICI hub location at New Delhi, gave the status update on numbering resource initiative, especially in the context of forthcoming demand for IPv6. The last readout was by Satish Babu, Chair, Asia-Pacific Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO), who provided a status update on the discussions and initiatives of At-Large community at ICANN 58. The Q&A session that followed after all the above presentations was quite interactive with questions from different participants and answered by the speakers and was well moderated by Prof. V. Sridhar of IIIT-B. Prof. Srinath Srinivasa, Dean of Research & Development, IIIT-B gave concluding remarks, highlighting the research opportunities in the area of Web and Internet policy for the future. Recording of the event is available at <https://participate.icann.org/p5ss756r2hf/> and can be viewed through Adobe

Connect.

Photos: <https://goo.gl/photos/Eneq7CYWiqH2cUot5>



Workshop on **Big Data Engineering- Education, Research and Innovation (BDE 2017)** was held during April 18-19 at IIIT-B. Participants were faculties from various colleges in and around Bengaluru and students from the institute. There were 11 talks by experts from academia and industry. This workshop is a part of a project Co-creation of a Center of Excellence in Big Data Engineering, a collaboration between IIIT-B and City University London, to set up a center of excellence in Big Data Engineering. The objective of the workshop was to introduce various topics in breadth for the Big Data Engineering Course, spearheaded as a part of the RAEng project, for which Prof. Srinath Srinivasa is the Principal Investigator. Prof. Srinath and his lab, Web Sciences Lab, organized the event.



The annual sports event at IIIT-B **Spandan 2017** was held on April 14-16, sports events such as Basket Ball, Cricket, Table Tennis, Volley Ball, Marathon, Computer games, Chess, Carrom, Facepaint were conducted same as last year. The event witnessed active participation by students, Alumni, Faculty, and staff.

Photos: <https://goo.gl/photos/2ArVRBzwbeDadLb38>





IIIT-B Alumni Council Meeting was held on April 22.

"Hack for Smarter Cities" hackathon was held during April 22-23 at IIIT-B in partnership with eGovernment Foundation - the organization credited with transforming governance through technology in various states. 125 hackers (25 teams) participated, out of which 17 teams (9 external, 8 IIIT-B) were qualified for presenting their ideas to the panel of judges comprising of Mr. Srikanth Nadhamuni, Managing Trustee, eGov Mr. Viraj Tyagi, CEO, eGov, and Profs. Amit Prakash and Ramesh Sundararaman. The top five teams were selected based on a detailed review of their code and the presentation made to the judges. IIIT-B students were part of four of those teams and the 1st prize of Rs. 25,000 was won by Nihal kudligi (IMT2015030) Alan Israel(IMT2015526) Aditya T(IMT2015521) Bharath (IMT2015527)





Publication Including Presentations

The work of M.Tech. students Abhilash Maradwar (MT2016080), Ishan Sharma (MT2016063), and Shubham Mallade (MT2016079) with the guidance of Prof. Sachit Rao, entitled "**Evaluating Twitter as a Feedback Mechanism for Addressing Customer Grievances**" was presented at the Internet Researchers' Conference, 2017. This work can be read on the blog entry at <http://citapp.iiitb.ac.in/irc17-selfiesfromthefield-blogpost-abhilashmaradwar/>

Priyanka Ivatury (DT2015006) presented her work on **electronic health records** at the Internet Researchers' Conference 2017. This work can be read on the blog entry at:

<http://citapp.iiitb.ac.in/irc17-selfiesfromthefield-blogpost-priyankaivatury/>

The article titled "**Digital India over the decades**" by Prof. S. Sadagopan (Director, IIIT-B) was published in Voice&Data on March 22. The article traces the key transformational IT projects in India.

It is available at:

<http://www.voicendata.com/digital-india-over-the-decades/>

Prof. Meenakshi D'Souza presented a paper titled "**Knowledge-based decision framework for architecting complex systems**" at the 32nd ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC), held during April 3-6 in Marrakech, Morocco. The paper is co-authored by Ramakrishnan Raman (PH2015010).



IIITB In Media

[This Bengaluru summer camp keeps the spirit of science alive](#)

[India Dealbook: Holachef gets \\$5m led by Kalaari; VideoKen fundraise](#)

[A population of over 1.2 billion, but India reeling under critical vacancies](#)



Faculty and Staff

Prof. Balaji Parthasarathy was invited by the **Digital Geographies Speciality** Group of the Association of American Geographers conference to present IIIT-B's novel M.Sc.

(Digital Society) program. The Speciality Group meet was co-hosted by Microsoft Research New England on April 6 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Prof. Manish Gupta gave invited talks at Jadavpur University on March 29, and at Ahmedabad University on April 17, on the topic "**Applying Data Science to Real World Problems**" on both the places.



Ms. Roshni Dsouza, Senior Outreach Officer, IIIT-B visited **Endurance International Group** for a TPO (Training Placement Office) meet on April 7. The aim was to build relations and understand how institutes and industry could collaborate and work on various things that could benefit both. Some of the topics discussed were: how could a company conduct branding activities in the Institute, participate in curriculum and market expectations to help students prepare for placements, work on various faculty development programs and conduct various training sessions to the employees by the Institute.

Academic Milestones

April 26: Hari Bhaskar S. (PH2014007): State of the Art Seminar on "**Reference Architecture for Airline passenger satisfaction in changing Big Data Paradigm**"

April 27: Raksha P.S. (PH2015009): Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination

Guest Talk

April 4: "**Security and Privacy in Health Databases: Issues and Approaches,**" by Ms. Swapnil Shrivatsava, CDAC.

April 5: "**Tech Entrepreneurship**" by Dr. Pravin Bhaqwat, Co-founder & CTO, Mojo

April 9: Tech Entrepreneurship by Dr. Pravin Bhagwat, Co-founder & CTO, Mojo Networks, Inc. (<http://www.mojonetworks.com/>)



April 10: "Emerging issues in healthcare - from the perspective of a company like Siemens and the India context." by Mr. Arun G., Siemens Healthcare

April 12: "Magical Thinking: What Documentation of Identity Achieves" by Ms. Julia Harrington Reddy, Open Society Foundations.



April 12: "The Mystery of Happiness" by ISKCON (Organised by Turiya Club)

April 17: "IT in Hospitals - managing imaging and other large data sets" by Dr. Aravind Gowda, NIMHANS.

April 19: "Applications of IBM Watson in Healthcare" by Dr. Subrahmaynam Guttina, Ph.D, Senior Consultant Watson Health



April 19: "Time Management" by ISKCON (Organised by Turiya Club)

April 24: "Medical Simulation: An Outlook through Endoscopy Simulations," by Drs. Shantanu Chakravarthy and Nithin Shivshankar, co-founders of Mimyk Inc., a tech start-up from IISc

April 26: "Performance Analysis of Cloud Radio Systems," by Dr. T. V. Sreejith, Networks and Stochastic Systems Lab at Indian Institute of Technology Madras



Campus Visitors

April 3: Mr. Narasimha Raju, IAS

April 4: Mr. Srinivasulu, IFS, BRADCL

April 6: A delegation led by Wei-Chung Wang, Ph. D. P. E. Professor, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan, Republic of China



April 7: Mr. Prakash, IAS, GSTN

April 9: Dr. Manoj Arora, Director, Chandigarh University

April 12: Prof. Lakshmi Thathachar, President Samskriti Foundation, Mysore

April 25: Delegation from Indonesia



April 26: Mr. Kaushal Sarda, Founder, Kuliza

April 27: Mr. Shankar Iyer- Sixth Energy Technologies Private Limited

April 27: Mr. Tarun Arora, CEO and Business Head of GISTMettl



Campus Calendar for May

May 1: May Day Holiday

May 2-5: Final exam week

May 2-5: Master of Science by Research and Ph.D. Admissions: Week of written entrance examination (as required specifically by research domains) and interviews.

May 7-31: Term break

May 10: M.Sc. (Digital Society) Admissions: Payment of confirmation fees by the candidates selected in the first list

May 12: Master of Science by Research and Ph.D. Admissions: Notification to admitted students along with admission offer letters via email

May 26: Master of Science by Research and Ph.D. Admissions: Last date for remittance of acceptance fee by the admitted candidates

May 31: M.Sc. (Digital Society) Admissions: Last date for submitting online applications for the second round of admissions.