



International
Institute of Information
Technology Bangalore

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From the Director's Desk



We started the month of November with the celebration of Karnataka Rajyotsava on campus. The good start was a harbinger for other energetic events on campus for the rest of the month. We conducted an overnight SpicMacay program, Yamini, as we moved from October to November, an Aspire Entrepreneur Seminar – welcome speech by Dr. Sridhar Mitta, 70th Governing Body meeting, a FLASHBACK -IIITB Faculty in formative years, a PMI - Roundtable on IT Project Management Education and Research, Spanish Team visited IIITB on CSR & Innovation. One cannot miss the diversity of events in the month. Nothing better than a splash of activities on campus, as we wind down for the year. Beyond November is when the campus gears up for the finals exam week and the semester break.

November 8 saw the "Great Smog" in the national capital when particulate count, PM 2.5 particles measured the highest and made New Delhi the most polluted city in the world. The air quality index in New Delhi shot above the hazardous level (500) on November 7, peaking to an index of 1010 on the 8th. The good news is, the industry is contributing its bit in resolving this problem. Our alumnus, Nidesh Kadyan has co-founded a company, Graviky Labs, which has conceived the technology to convert soot and other particulates from diesel generators using their prototype device, KAALINK. KAALINK makes Air-Ink, which is a special ink for painting. Read more on Graviky Labs and Air-Ink at <http://www.graviky.com/air-inktrade.html>

HAPPY READING!

Achievements

Vinay Chandrasekhar, Krishna Nagaraj, and Aravind Reddy (iMTech 2015 batch students) won the "Young Innovators Award" at MeltingPot 2020 event, held in Hyderabad during November 14-15. The students demonstrated prototypes of upper limb exoskeleton, lower limb DVT prophylaxis device, programmable braille device and surgical probes in the event.



IIIT Bangalore also won the "Exemplary student driven innovation ecosystem" award in MeltingPot 2020 event for showcasing prototypes of surgical and assistive devices. This work is carried in SARL lab affiliated to E-Health Research center, IIIT Bangalore. The research work on these devices is carried out by IIIT Bangalore in collaboration with NIMHANS faculty. The faculty from IIIT Bangalore involved in SARL lab are: Professors Madhav Rao, Subhajit Sen, T K Srikanth, Debabrata Das, and Muralidhara V N, and faculty involved from NIMHANS are Dr. Vikas, and Dr. Laxmi Rao. IIIT Bangalore Students involved in the development of this work are: Vinay Chandrasekhar, Krishna Nagaraj, and Aravind Reddy (iMTech 2015 batch).

A bot-a-thon called BUILD A BOT ON ENGATI was organised by Coviam Technologies at IIIT Bangalore. Engati (engati.com) a chatbot platform built by Coviam Technologies was introduced to the students to build, manage, train, analyse and publish personalised bots in a few minutes!. The event was successfully executed on October 25. Students came up with really interesting ideas and their bot ideas even got them a lot of attention on the social media. Here are the top three bots presented.

First Prize Winner: Pavithira K.C. (IMT2014025) Bot name: Recruitment Bot (m.me/244262706106857)

This bot is to help connect company recruiters with job applicants. It can show relevant open positions, check applicants eligibility, answer questions on job responsibilities, salary/perks, work culture. It lets the applicants apply for the open positions, track their application status and get their follow-up questions answered.

Second Prize Winner: Vineet Reddy (IMT2014045) and Seetarama Raju (IMT2014038)

Bot Name: BotRick (m.me/ChatWithBotRick)

BotRick is a crypto currency bot. It holds a lot of functionalities in its sleeves. The bot helps users to explore crypto currencies at a much greater depth, along with that it also compares 2 crypto currencies and also provides an overall overview of various crypto currencies.

Third Prize Winner: Amitabh Tiwari

Bot Name: Packup bot (m.me/PackupChatBot)

Travel Assistant Bot to assist users in planning trips. The Bot will be able to answer several queries regarding Railways, Airways and Buses (if time permits). The bot could also help users in finding the directions to a specific airport/railway station. It can help to make customer support calls to railway enquiry/airlines call centers and direct to their websites for booking tickets.

Prof. Tricha Anjali has assumed the charge of **Associate Dean (Continuing Professional Education)** with effect from November 1. She will work closely with the Dean (Academics) in discharging this responsibility.

70th Governing Body meeting was held on November 8.



FLASHBACK event was held on November 9 at IIIT Bangalore. The event was organized for those Faculty members who were with IIIT Bangalore in formative years.



Roundtable on IT Project Management Education and Research conducted at IIIT Bangalore on November 10. The Roundtable has been aimed at inviting a dialogue between IT industry

practitioners and academicians with the following broad objectives: (i) to discuss and deliberate the need of teaching Project Management in IT courses; to identify the topics in alignment with industry needs and to create a road-map for inclusion of recommended topics in the curriculum of academic programmes across the country; and (ii) to have a dialogue between industry and academia to further Project Management research by faculty members and doctoral students with the support of Industry, wherever required.

[Gate-1](#) on campus has been operational since November 20.

There was a launch of an online confidential counseling platform for students, [YourDost](#) , on November 21. YourDost is India's first and largest online mental health and emotional wellness service, which provides professional services from 900+ experts with complete anonymity and confidentiality. YourDost is available to all the students on campus.

The [WSL workshop](#) , an all-day event of presentations of research at the Web Science Lab (WSL) by lab researchers and project students was conducted on November 27.



The play "[The Way Out](#)" was performed by Theater Arts club on November 29 in the Main Class Room (MCR). The play was about three women subjected to hardships and abuse, each one chose to take a different path which eventually got intertwined. Dealing with

shame, stigma, and self-apprehension, they came out to face life, in their own ways. The Way Out, at its core, deals with the constant abuse women have to face, be it in the workplace, educational institutions or in any other such social settings. Some of them gather the courage to stand up against the wrong that is being done, but many don't afraid of being ostracized by peers and family. Fear of being misunderstood and other consequences, deter many from speaking up often resulting in the person sliding into depression and eventually ending up harming themselves. The play conveyed a social message that the women to speak out during adversities, to find a way out.

Happy Hour Lunch for faculty and staff was organized on November 30.



Publication Including Presentations

Balaji Parthasarathy and Yuko Aoyama presented the paper "[Institutionalizing Frugal Innovation: 'Domain Flexibility' and 'Scalar Flexibility' for Sustainable Development](#)" at the Conference on Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development held in Leiden, The Netherlands during November 7- 8.

A paper titled "[Online Peer-to-peer Discussions: A Platform for Automatic Assessment of Communication Skill](#)" authored by Sowmya Rasipuram (PhD student), Pooja Rao (MS Student), Rahul Das (MS student) and Prof. Dinesh Babu Jayagopi was published in the proceedings of Context Based Affect Recognition Workshop, Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction (ACII) Conference, San Antonio, Texas, USA, October 2017.

Sneha Singhanian (IMT2013045) and Nigel Fernandez (IMT2013027) presented their paper titled "[3HAN: A Deep Neural Network for Fake News Detection](#)" co-authored with Prof. Shrisha Rao at the 24th International Conference on Neural Information Processing (ICONIP 2017) during November 14-18 in Guangzhou, China. The paper appears in Springer LNCS 10635, pp. 572-581, 2017, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-70096-0_59. 3HAN is a fast and accurate detector of fake news that also provides diagnostic evidence. For more: <https://goo.gl/u3jvyc> and <https://github.com/ni9elf/3HAN>.

Karthik Revanuru (IMT2013033) and Kaushik Turlapaty (IMT2013054) presented their paper titled "[Neural Machine Translation of Indian Languages](#)" co-authored with Professor

Shrisha Rao at ACM Compute 2017, the 10th Annual ACM India Conference held in Bhopal during November 17-19.

Rajanikanth Kashi (PH2011004) presented his paper titled "Incorporating Formal Methods and Measures Obtained through Analysis, Simulation Testing for Dependable Self-Adaptive Software in Avionics Systems," co-authored by Meenakshi D'Souza and K. R. Kishore, at ACM Compute 2017, the 10th ACM Compute Conference held in Bhopal during November 17-19 .

The paper titled "Towards privacy preserving threat intelligence" authored by Sashank Dara (PH2014011), Saman Taghavi Zargar and Prof. V. N. Muralidhara has been published at Journal of Information Security and Applications. Link : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214212617300078>

Prof. Muralidhara V. N. chaired a session on Reinforcement Learning and presented a paper at ICONIP 2017, held at Guangzhou, China, during November 14-18. He presented the paper titled "Policy Gradient Reinforcement Learning for I/O Reordering on Storage Servers," co-authored by Kumar D. (PH2013004) and Prof. G. Srinivasa Raghavan.



IIT Bangalore in Media

[Agri Tech Startup KrishiHub Raises Seed Funding from IIT Kanpur ...](#)

[CLEducate, TiE Hyderabad, T-Hub sign MoUs](#)

[Every one automation will create 10 jobs: Sadagopan](#)

[Express IT Awards: High-Profile jury to make the best of Indian IT count](#)

[IFIM hosts Digital Innovation Conclave with NASSCOM, Government ...](#)

[IFIM, GOI, NASSCOM partner to improve employability quotient in ...](#)

[Industry, academia join hands to boost innovation, entrepreneurship](#)

[Karnataka will create 20000 startups by 2020, Bengaluru Tech ...](#)

[Nasscom, IFIM biz school to train 10000 analysts](#)

[Navigating success and failure: 12 lessons from the story of India's ...](#)

[Need to support budding innovators, says Mashelkar](#)

[Rise of the humans](#)

[Rs. 2.5 cr CSR grant for 30 colleges in State](#)

[The Manual for Indian Startups: a guide to documents, plans ...](#)

[There will be jobs even after AI, says Professor Sadagopan, IIT-B](#)

[T-Hub, TIE Hyderabad and CL Educate sign MoUs at MeltingPot2020](#)

[UpGrad bets on AI for job creations, after Cambridge now partners ...](#)

[Why these 5 industries will soon pick virtual assistants instead of ...](#)



Faculty and Staff

Prof. Shrisha Rao was an external examiner for a Ph.D. thesis defense at the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) in Hyderabad, on November 24. Prof. Rao also delivered invited lectures at the University of Hyderabad and at IDRBT on November 24 and 25.

Meenakshi D'Souza attended the DST-ICPS workshop on Internet of Things held at IIT Kharagpur during November 3-4, to present her proposal on Verification and Validation of IoT Systems. Subsequently, the proposal has been selected for funding by DST.

Pooja Rao (MS2015009) presented her paper titled "Automatic Assessment of Communication Skill in Non-Conventional Interview Settings: A Comparative Study," co-authored by Sowmya Rasipuram (PH2014008), Rahul Das (MS2015011), and Prof. Dinesh Babu Jayagopi, at the International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI), Glasgow, Scotland during November 13-17. Pooja received a travel grant from the Gary Marsden Student Development Fund (\$1750) to present her work.

Pavan Sudheendra (EMT2013019) presented his paper on "Genre Linked Automated Assessment and feedback of Photographs based on Visual Aesthetics," co-authored by Prof. Dinesh Babu Jayagopi at the International Conference on Image Processing Tools and Applications (IPTA), Montreal during November 28-December 1. Pavan received travel support from Samsung India.

MeltingPot 2020 was chaired by Prof. S. Sadagopan conducted at Hyderabad on November 14.

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

Nov 02: Dr. Nanditha Rao joined as faculty member.



Academic Milestones

Karthik V. (MS2011005) completed his Oral examination on thesis titled "MD-Tree: A search-optimized Index Structure for Flash/Non-volatile Memory" on November 24.



Campus Visitors

Nov 02: Mr. Mrirani Sharma, Assistant General Manager (Legal), NEDFi, and Mr. Zaveer Zaman, Manager, and Mr. Siddhartha Lahkar, Assistant Manager, North East Venture Fund

Nov 06: Mr. Hart Singh, SVP, New Ventures, Evolving Systems Inc.

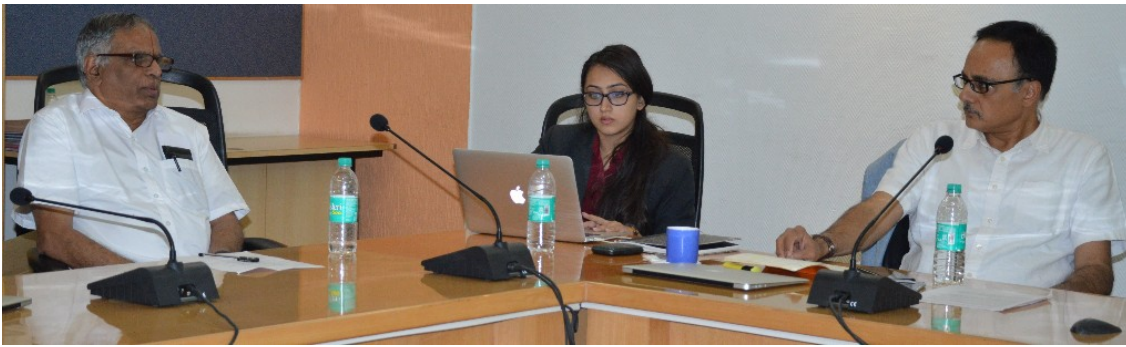
Nov 07: Dr. Sridhar Mitta Founder and MD, Nextwealth Entrepreneurs Pvt. Ltd.

Nov 07: Mr. S Srikrishna, Partner - Incubation Hub at Candor Hub

Nov 07: Ms. Nivedha R. M., Founder and CEO, Trashcon Profile & Co-Founder of CCC and Sparsh the Help

Nov 07: Ms. Geeta Ramamurthy, Co-Founder & CEO, GIGA Innovation Centers, India & US

Nov 10: Mr. Nipun Mehrotra & team, IBM



Nov 17: Ms. Gayathri Kalla, Justice & Care

Nov 18: Mr. Arijit Chowdhury, CEO & President, and Dr. Kundu, Founder, KSG Information System.

Nov 20: Mr. Chinnu Senthilkumar, CTO, Exfinity Venture Partners



Nov 20: Mr. Mathang Seshagiri, Google India, Mr. Karthik Padmanabhan, Developer Relations, Google India

Nov 20: Dr. Sudhir Patnaik, Director, Engineering & Operations, Intuit India Development Center

Nov 22: Spanish Delegation



Nov 24: Mphasis Team

Nov 24: Dr. Rajan M. A., Research Scientist, TCS Innovation Labs

Nov 29: Korean Delegation





Campus Calendar for December 2017 and January 2018

December 1: ICANN Readout Session

December 4-9: Semester Final Exams week

December 4-12: Research admissions on campus

December 6: 59th Senate Meeting

December 11: Term I (2017-18) ends

December 11-13: CITAPP Winter School

January 02: Term II (2017-18) begins

January 02: Arrival of new batch of Master of Science by Research and Ph.D.

January 10: Deadline for submissions of abstracts for Ph.D. colloquium, RISE 2018

January 14: Makara Sankranthi

January 26: Republic Day

January 31: Author notification of reviews of abstracts for Ph.D. colloquium, RISE 2018



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