

[View this email in your browser](#)



Newsletter
November 2019



Inside this Issue

- FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK
- ACHIEVEMENTS
- CAMPUS NEWS
- CAMPUS CALENDAR – DECEMBER 2019

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, which concluded with the dawn of November 1st. The academic activities for the semester wound down by the end of November, with the campus being ready for exams week in early December.

The campus was busy with activities and was graced by illustrious visitors. We had ACM India Industry Leader's Round Table with Hemant Pande and N R Narayana Murthy on November 7th at our campus. His Highness Maharaja Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar visited us on November 12. We had the 78th Governing Body Meeting and a Felicitation function for all the personnel who have completed 20 years of service at IIITB. Our Institute won Best Exhibitor Award for the year 2019 in Bengaluru Tech Summit 2019. The NRCeS Users Meet was hosted by IIITB during late November. We signed an MoU with Odisha-eGov in presence of Chief Minister of Odisha, Mr. Naveen Patnaik in Bhubaneswar.

November was a month of rejoicing for Science and Research in India. Infosys Prizes for 2019 were announced on November 13 by Infosys Science Foundation.

The list of the Infosys Prize 2019 awardees:

- (a) Engineering and Computer Science : Sunita Sarawagi (Institute Chair Professor, CSE, IIT-Bombay).
- (b) Humanities : Manu V. Devadevan (Assistant Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT – Mandi).
- (c) Life Sciences : Manjula Reddy (Chief Scientist, Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad).
- (d) Mathematical Sciences : Siddhartha Mishra (Professor, Department of Mathematics, ETH Zürich)
- (e) Physical Sciences : G. Mugesh (Professor, Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, IISc, Bengaluru)
- (f) Social Sciences : Anand Pandian (Professor, Department of Anthropology, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, Johns Hopkins University)

Altogether, November 2019 has been a happening month.

HAPPY READING!

Achievements

Our director **Prof. S. Sadagopan**, as well as **Prof. S. Ramani**, have been conferred the **"Lifetime Achievement" award** by Board For IT Education Standards (BITES). Congratulations!



Prof. Sridhar Varadharajan, Preeti Mudliar and Balaji Parthasarathy have been awarded INR 1,955,800 by the **Azim Premji University Research Funding Programme** for a study titled **"Online and offline livelihoods - An analysis of the impact of the gig economy on worker participation"**. The study will run from November 2019 to April 2021, and will examine how workers in informal work sector professions, with opportunities to pursue employment on on-demand app platforms, understand and negotiate the benefits and risks associated with platform work employment vis-à-vis offline and traditional sources of employment in their professions.

Prakhar Mishra (MS2019012) is selected as an **Intel Student Ambassador for Artificial Intelligence** on Nov 28, 2019. He is working in the field of Natural Language Generation. Prof Srinath Srinivasa is his supervisor and Prof. G Srinivasaraghavan is Co-Supervisor.

Sanjaya M.V (MS2018015) is selected as an **Intel Student Ambassador for Artificial Intelligence**. He is working on designing domain-specific hardware architecture to run deep learning algorithms, with Prof. Madhav Rao.
Congratulations to both of them!

As the **lead India investigator for the Fairwork Foundation's effort to ensure fair labour standards in the platform economy**, **IIITB is pleased to share the results of research from 2018-2019 in the Foundation's first annual report**, which ranks twelve platforms in India, and ten in South Africa, based on five Fairwork principles. See: <https://fair.work/fairwork-foundations-first-annual-report-released/>

Campus News



Events

IIITB hosted the **ACM India Industry** Leaders meet on 7th November. The event was organized by ACM India to seek inputs from industry leaders regarding activities and their vision for ACM India. The event was well attended. Around 15 leaders from various product and IT firms in Bengaluru participated, including Mr. Narayana Murthy, representing Infosys.



His Highness Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar Visited our campus on 12th November and discussed various opportunities to collaborate with IIITB. Bherunda Foundation presented regarding its various projects and IIITB made presentations about the Institute and its various centres.



78th Governing Body Meeting was held on November 13.

Aikyam (IIITB Student Club) along with a group of IIITB students celebrated Children's Day with the children of Surabhi Orphanage (5 km from IIITB) on the evening of 14th November. The goal was to spend some quality time with the orphanage children, organize few engaging events, distribute goodies and donate necessary ration and clothing. The club distributed sweets, rice packets & other groceries, blankets, soaps, writing materials, & old clothes donated by the student community.



This is a milestone year for IIITB since it **completed 20 years of existence**. On this occasion, IIITB felicitated the employees who completed 20 years of glorious service in the organization, on 13 November.



On November 15, **AKSH (IIITB Literature Club)** organized an evening of poetry and storytelling event **GEETAGEET**. The event started with a beautiful Gazal recited by Shashank Mishra (MT2019101) received with thunderous applause. Next, Subarna (MT2019523) moved the audience with his story based on the theme "childhood vs corporate life". After that, Shivankit (MT2018521) delicately narrated a story on those fine aspects of life, that are generally overlooked. Subsequently, Vikram (MT2018085) created a fantasy world with his fantastic fictional story. Next, Soonver (MT2018118) lightened the mood of the event with his poem on "love and life". After that, Aditya (MT2019502) filled the veins of the audience with patriotism with his "veer-ras" poem. At the end, Lushika (EXT2019005) touched every heart with her poem on the "father-daughter" relationship. With this, the first part of the event came to an end. In the second segment of the event, interested students from the audience were asked to come upon the stage and showcase their talent.

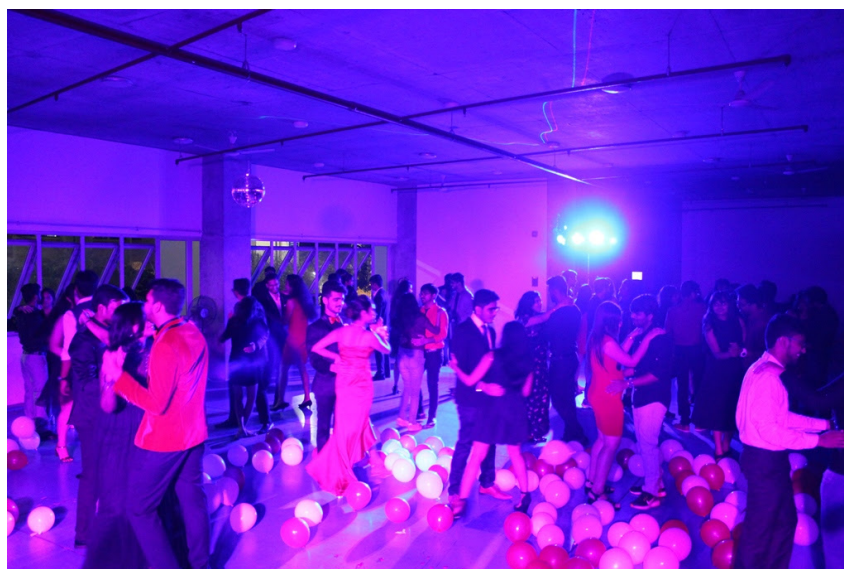


Zense Club (IIITB Coding and Programming Club) organized a hackathon aka. **HacKnight 2k19**, on 15th November and encouraged students by awarding cash prizes to winners; Besides, they also gave away swag like stickers, digital certificates and food for all. 130 students participated in the event. The timeline for the event was from 6.00 PM (15th November 2019) to 11.00 AM (16th November 2019), with breaks in between.

On November 16, **IIITB Dance Club & SAC organized an evening of Dance - Prom Night (Dance in pairs)"** a first-ever event at IIITB. Around 140 IIITB students and 15 students from other academic institutes participated enthusiastically. The list of awards to be won were : Prom Queen, Prom King and Best Couple. The last hour was open to all the students on campus and around 150 students joined for DJ Night.

Name of the Award Winners:

1. Prom Queen: Palasha (ICFAI Business School, Hyderabad)
2. Prom King: Vaibhav, (IIITB)
3. Best Couple: Vivek and Nimisha (IIITB)



IIITB participated in the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) held during November 18-20 at Bengaluru Palace.

Day 1: Deputy CM Shri Ashwathnarayan, IIITB Chairman Kris Gopalakrishnan, Biocon Chief Ms. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw visited our stall in the presence of Director Prof S Sadagopan, and inaugurated Bionic Yantra's Exoskeleton. The Startups that were showcased at BTS 2019 were: Bionic Yantra, nSmiles, Iotracx, Vision Empower, Friends for Inclusion, Ziroh Labs, Cogno – A Web Observatory for Observing online social cognition, Hyper Reality, Archive of Indian Music, MINRO, eHRC, CITAPP, Innovation Centre & MOSIP. Our stall had the privilege of receiving several distinguished visitors - H. E Pham Sanh Chau, Ambassador of Vietnam to India, was among them. There was a Roundtable with the Delegation from Finland at the Tech Summit. This was chaired by Pekka Silvonnen (Head, Digital Transformation Finland) & Mika Tironnen (Counsellor Education, Embassy of Finland, India). Ravi Gururaj & Naganad Doeswamy too visited our Stall and applauded the Startup Ecosystem. Jayant Nadiger (Trade Commissioner, Flanders, Belgium) led a Belgian Startup / Innovation Team for Discussion on Partnerships and met with the IIITB Team.

Day 2: Started with our Director Prof. S Sadagopan, delivering the Keynote Address for the Skill Summit in the presence of Shri Nagesh H (Minister for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood & Excise), Dr. S Selvakumar (IAS, Secretary for Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood) and Dr. E V Ramanana Reddy (Additional Chief Secretary - Dept of IT, BT, S&T). This was followed by a Panel Discussion on "Digital Identity & Development" where Prof. S Sadagopan participated along with Sanjay Anandram, Srikant Karwa from MOSIP and Krupesh Bhat from Legal Desk.

His Highness Shri Maharaja Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar also enthusiastically visited our Stall. He was also present for the Final Round of the Rural IT Quiz as well as, for the Prize Distribution. Shri Priyank Kharge (MLA & Ex-Minister for IT, BT, S&T), Former

Minister Shri R V Deshpande, Shri Arnab Kumar From NITI Aayog, Sebastian Hug (the Swiss Consul General to Bangalore & CEO of Swissnex India), and a Delegation from RGUHS led by Shri Rajesh Shenoy also visited us. Other dignitaries like H. E Emmanuel Lenain, the Ambassador of France to India, accompanied by Consul General Marjorie Vanbaelinghem and Science Attache, Jerome Bove also visited our Stall.

Day 3: Opened with presentations on our K-Tech Centre - Machine Intelligence and Robotics (MINRO) at IIITB by Director Prof S Sadagopan, Dean (Academics) Prof. R Chandrashekar, Prof. Tridib Roy Choudhury, Chief Program Officer -MINRO and Mr. Kedar, Co-Founder Bionic Yantra.

IIITB received **Best Exhibitor Award in the Interactive and Best Managed Category, at the BTS Awards Night**



On 21st November, Continental and **IIITB signed a MoU to establish strong collaboration in research**, teaching and other activities. This is the outcome of a year-long discussion with the ADAS team from Continental, on possible modes of collaboration. The first activity will be, to conduct a specialized course on Advanced Radar Sensing for RADAR engineers at Continental. Prof. Vinod will offer this customized course.



The National Resource Center for EHR standards (NRCeS), India, organized '**Users Meet - Winter 2019**' co-hosting it with E-Health Research Center (IIITB) at our campus. This event

was held to share experiences about implementation and adoption of E-Health Records (EHR) standards, practical challenges, solutions, best practices and future approaches from across the country. The one-day event, organized on November 22, was attended by professionals and stakeholders working in the field of e-health, including government officials.

The event also marked the announcement of the release of drug code list by NRCeS which is a significant milestone in the EHR adoption journey in the country. Ms. Manisha Mantri outlined various initiatives of NRCeS and updated on the recent work and milestones. Prof. Srikanth (EHRC-IIITB) outlined the privacy and security challenges that are to be considered during EHR implementations, by giving an example of Karnataka Mental Health Management System done by E-Health Research Center of IIITB, in collaboration with NIMHANS and Government of Karnataka.

The bi-annual event is an effort to bring Health and IT leaders together towards building interoperable healthcare system in the country. It also collates the analysis and observations made by the participants and presents it to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (MOHFW).



Publication Including Presentations

Pragyan Mohapatra (MS2018009) and Prof. Jaya Sreevalsan-Nair presented their work on **"Uncertainty Analysis in Point Cloud Classification: Impact of Entropy in Geometric Classification and Semantic Homogeneity"** during the poster presentations, at the Intel India Research Colloquium on October 22.

The poster titled **"Automatic Follow-Up Question Generation for Asynchronous Interviews"** by Pooja Rao (MS2015009) won the first runner-up for the Best Poster Award at the 10th Grace Hopper Celebration India (GHCI) 2019 conference. GHCI 19 was held during 6-8 November 2019 in Bangalore. This was judged by domain experts from American Express, Ernst & Young, Wells Fargo, Amazon, Expedia etc. She also received the 'Student Scholar' pass to attend the conference.

Harshitha Ravindra (PH2018019) and Jaya Sreevalsan Nair presented their work on **"Visual Analytics of Population Health Surveys: NFHS-4"** at the project showcase during IBM University Relations annual event, "Gratitude", at IBM EGL campus, Bengaluru on November 21.

Faculty & Staff

Prof. Meenakshi D'Souza attended the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing (GHCI) India on November 2 to participate in a panel discussion titled "Preparing for jobs for the future". She was invited as a member of ACM India council, to provide insights from academics point of view.

Balaji Parthasarathy was invited to speak on **"Global economic outlook: What it means to your business"** at the 12th International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge ([IWEC Foundation](#)) Conference, hosted by the [Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry \(FICCI\)](#), New Delhi, from 10-13 November

Samvaad

November 4: **"Education and Technology: Assessments and Evaluation"** by Dr. Shilpi Banerjee, Azim Premji University

November 18: **"Automated Evaluation of Programming Assignments"** by Prof. Sujit Kumar Chakrabarti, IIIT Bangalore.

November 27: **"Education and Technology: Assessments and Evaluation"** by Prof. K. V. Dinesha, IIITB.

Visitors

November 4: Mr. Daniel David Castro, VP, The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) US Expert - Data Protection & Regulations.

November 7: Prof. Somayajulu, Director, IIITDM Kurnool.

November 12: Dr. Paul Gilbert, CEO, Qunser Inc.

November 29: Dr. Myo Kywe, Chairman, National Education Policy Commission, Myanmar.



Campus Calendar for December 2019

December 04: 71st Senate Meeting.

December 9-11: CITAPP Winter School 2019

December 18: Happy Healthy Hour

December 20: Christmas celebration



