

bitscan

Hyderabad Campus



Convocation





The seventh Convocation ceremony for the graduating students in First Degree, Higher Degree and PhD Programmes from BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus was held on Sunday 12 August 2018. The Academic procession, was led by Prof Siva Subramanian, Acting Registrar, BITS Pilani. In this Convocation, 793 students received their degrees, out of which 689 students received their first degree, 72 received their higher degree and 32 received their doctorate degree. This year, for their outstanding academic performance, the gold medal was shared by two students, Aniket Janardhan Reddy and Arvind Rameshwar. Kevin Biju and Dusi Aditya were awarded the silver and bronze medals respectively. BITS felicitates its Alumni through Distinguished Alumni Awards every year during convocation. This year's winners, Prof Prabhu L Pingali the founding Director of the Tata-Cornell Institute, USA and Mr Ajoyendra Mukherjee, Executive Vice President & Global Head of Human Resources, Tata Consultancy Services, received their awards in person. In his speech, Vice Chancellor Prof Souvik Bhattacharyya congratulated the students on their success. He mentioned that the status of Institute of Eminence that has been bestowed upon BITS Pilani by the government is a testimonial to the success of its students and that the institute is thrilled to tackle the challenges that lay ahead. In his address to the students, Prof G Sundar congratulated the students and their families and wished them the best as they began a new journey. He spoke about the importance of knowledge and experience, and hoped that students would go on to serve the nation and globe as responsible citizens and bring glory and laurels to their alma mater.

Eminent Visitors



Dr Subramanian Swamy, Economist and MP in Rajya Sabha



Padma Shri Dr Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi



Dr Ram D Sriram, NIST, USA



Prof Padmini Swaminathan, Noted Economist



Padma Shri, Dr Rajagopalan Vasudevan, Plastic Man of India



Padma Shri, Dr Vikas Mahatme, eminent Ophthalmologist.



Anudeep Durishetty, BITS Pilani alumnus, UPSC topper 2017-2018, All India Civil Service Examination Rank 1



Dr. Shailesh Kumar, Chief Data Scientist at Reliance Jio & Visiting Faculty of Machine Learning at Indian School of Business.

Confluence of Academic Ideas, Intellect and Information

WORKSHOPS

Dept of Computer Science and Information Systems, BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus, in association with ACSDM, organized a two-day workshop on "Expository Lectures on Graph and Geometric Algorithms" -ELGGA, during September 21-22, 2018.



Algorithms are the basic building blocks of every area of Computer Science. There has been significant amount of research happening over the last five decades or more in this area to solve practical life problems. Teaching and research in this foundational aspect of computer science is a natural and desirable thrust area. In this workshop, a series of invited talks was delivered on various aspects of Algorithms with due focus on Graph and Geometric Algorithms. Apart from the invited talks, there was an open discussion with invited speakers and students. Some of the invited speakers for the event were Prof. Subir Ghosh (Ramakrishna Mission Vivekanda University), Prof Sudebkumar Prashanta Pal (IIT Kharagpur), Prof Sandip Das (Indian Institute of Statistical Science, Kolkata), Swami Sarvottamanda (Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University) and Prof Abhiram Ranade (IIT Mumbai) to discuss the possibilities of research in the above mentioned areas.

Technology Business Incubator and The Innovation Cell, BITS Pilani Hyderabad campus hosted a patent clinic cum workshop – "Building Awareness on IPRs" in collaboration with Ministry of MSME and ICRISAT, Hyderabad during October 16, 2018.

The workshop disseminated information about the scheme to the beneficiaries (Start-ups, Entrepreneurs, Students, and Faculty) and the reimbursement facilities that the Ministry of MSME provided. Along with this, they interacted with the participants personally and offered advice about the IP health of their technologies and start-ups and also clarified

queries pertaining to IPRs. This workshop included a free of cost private consultation regarding Intellectual Property, Patent Registration, Industrial Design Registration, Trademarks, Copyrights, Legal drafting, and documentation etc. The event included an hour-long introductory session on Intellectual Properties and Patents followed by one on one consultation on October 16, 2018.

Department of Civil Engineering, Hyderabad Campus organized a workshop on 'Dynamic Testing and Simulation of Civil Structures' on October 08, 2018.



Dynamics of Structures and Earthquake engineering is an essential research area of Civil Engineering. To understand the dynamic behaviour of structures, vibration testing is necessary. The aim of this workshop was to train the participants on the importance of vibration testing of civil structures. The participants were exposed to hands-on experience of numerical modelling (STAAD Pro) and experimental testing (Shake Table).



**Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Hyderabad Campus organized a Tribology workshop – TRIBO-2018, November 15-16, 2018.**



The level of progress and success achieved by today's engineering owes much to the advancement of tribology. The spread of tribology from transportation and power generation to medicine and health sciences, food science and technology, cosmetics suggests its significance in all technological aspects of the modern world. The main speakers for the event were Prof Jayashree Bijwe, ITMMEC, IIT-Delhi, Prof. A.P. Harsha, IIT-Varanasi (BHU), Mr Bhaskar Avula, GE Power Conversion and Prof N S K Reddy, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad Campus.



**Department of Economics and Finance organized a symposium, November 02, 2018
Credit Suisse CRO GRAD Rotation Programme**



The Department of Economics and Finance along with Practice School Division organized a symposium titled Credit Suisse CRO, Grad Rotation Programme for the students across all the three campuses of BITS Pilani over telepresence. The invited speakers were Mr Abhiroop Guha, Head, Campus Recruitment, India, Credit Suisse and Mr Bhawaney Kumar Karnam, Operational Risk Manager. Prior to the symposium, delegates from Credit Suisse had a cross-campus meeting with faculty members of Economics and Finance for deeper industry engagement.

The AUGSD conducted a One Day Workshop "Outcome Based Teaching Learning Process", December 26-27, 2018

This workshop was conducted for the DCA members from each department on "Outcome Based Teaching Learning Process" which focused on the benefits of Outcome Based Education; Framing Program Educational Objectives (PEOs), Course Outcomes (COs) and Learning Objectives (LOs); Mapping PEOs, COs and LOs; Blooms Taxonomy; Measuring and Assessing Course Outcomes. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Calvin S King, a Mechanical Engineer holding a Ph.D. from BITS Pilani. He has over two decades of experience in teaching and administration across the affiliating, autonomous, deemed and private university systems. Dr. Calvin is certified for High Impact Teaching Skills by the Dale Carnegie Training methodology. In addition, he is certified at a professional level for Training and Teaching by University of Cambridge and has undergone training in learning and development in the School of Education, University of Calgary.

The Department of Civil Engineering organized a one day Seminar on Pavements Quality and Bitumen Rheology on 11th December 2018 (Sponsored by M/s Antnonpaar India Limited)

The aim of this workshop was to bring awareness among the participants on the sustainable technologies for construction of durable roads, the importance of DSR in binder characterization, plastic modified bitumen and asphalt binder testing. Dr. Oliver Sack, Technical expert from Anton Paar, Austria, was the key speaker.

The Department of Economics and Finance, BITS-Pilani Hyderabad Campus organized a two-day workshop on R Programming from November 17-18, 2018.



The workshop was conducted by Dr Venkataramana M, Principal Data Scientist at Cyient, Hyderabad. The topics covered in the workshop were basics of data processing, data visualization, time series analysis and machine learning.

International Visits by Faculty (Aug 01- Dec 31)

- Dr Manish Kumar, Dept of Mathematics, presented a paper titled 'Two Stage Hyper-Chaotic System Based Image Encryption in Wavelet Packet Domain for Wireless Communication Systems' in International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) 2018 held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil during **August 01-9, 2018**.
- Morapakala Srinvas, presented a paper titled 'Alternate Processes for Energy Efficiency in Non-Centrifugal Cane Sugar Industry-An Analytical Study' 17th international conference on sustainable energy technologies, SET 2018 at Wuhan, China during **August 21-23, 2018**.
- Alivelu M Parimi, Dept of EEE, presented a paper titled 'Power Quality Improvement of PV-WECS Microgrid Using Active Power Filter in Real-time IEEE' in 53rd International Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC 2018) during **September 04-07, 2018**, Glasgow, Scotland.
- Yogeewari P, Dept. of Pharmacy, presented a paper titled, 'Multiple crystal structure modeling in structure-based drug discovery: Case studies on successful diverse lead identification', in 18th International Conference on Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, during **October 18-19 2018, Dubai**.
- Souvik Kundu Dept of EEE presented a paper titled 'Oxide Based Memristor and Its Potential Application in Analog-Digital Electronics' in ICN 2018 held during **November 12-13, 2018**, Rome, Italy.
- Sunny Kumar Singh, Dept. of Economics presented a paper titled, 'Does Increase in Central Bank Independence reduce Corruption? Evidence from a Panel of Countries' in 88th Annual Conference, Southern Economic Association, Washington DC, USA, during **November 18-20, 2018**.
- P.N. Rao, Sabareesh G R, presented a paper titled 'Across wind load analysis using CFD for sustainable'. Geomast 2018, International Congress and Exhibition -Sustainable Civil Infrastructure, Egypt, International, during **November 2018**
- Supradeepan K, Dept, of Mechanical Engineering, presented a paper titled 'A Review of Space-Time Conservation element solution element (CESE) schemes'. International Conference on Recent Advances in Fluid

and Thermal Sciences, BITS-Pilani, Dubai, International, during **December 05-07, 2018**.

- Morapakala Srinivas, presented a paper titled 'Assessment of optimum energy demand for non-centrifugal sugar production through an alternate process'. International Conference on Recent Advances in Fluid and Thermal Sciences, iCRAFT 2018 at BITS Pilani (Dubai Campus) during **December 05-07, 2018**.
- Lov Kumar, Dept of Computer Science and Information Systems presented a paper Application of 'SMOTE and LSSVM with various Kernels for Predicting Refactoring at Method Level' in the 25th International Conference on Neural Information Processing (ICONIP2018) during **December 13-16, 2018**, Siem Reap, Cambodia.
- Sounak Roy, Dept of Chemistry, presented a paper titled

'Structure & Dopant Sensitivity in deNO_xPhotocatalysis' at 10th Singapore International Chemistry Conference, during **December 16-19, 2018**.

- Sajeli Begum. A, Dept. of Pharmacy, presented a paper titled, 'Natural Diketopiperazines as TNF and IL 6 inhibitors, in Pharmacology 2018' – British Pharmacological Society, London, UK, during **December 18 – 20, 2018**
- G.R. Sabareesh, presented a paper titled 'Study of Interference effects on Chimneys'. International Conference on Recent Advances in Fluid and Thermal Sciences, BITS-Pilani, Dubai, International, during **05-07 December, 2018**.

BITS Colloquium



Dr VR Lalithambika (BITS Colloquium) Director, Indian Human Spaceflight Programme, ISRO

Bits Pilani organized a colloquium lecture by Dr. V. R. Lalithambika, the Director of Indian Human Spaceflight Programme, ISRO at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus on 15th November 2018. The talk featured important topics like mission design, launch vehicle design, rocket science and human centric domain. She elaborated on how; from the launch of Nike Apache in 1963 to the recent successful launch of GSLV-MK-3, a plethora of challenges were faced and overcome by the ISRO scientists. She expounded on the crucial factors involved in the successful launch of space vehicles with extreme power, temperature, speed and pressure. She also spoke about how ISRO handles earth observation, navigation, crop production forecast and disaster management.



Another talk which was organized as a part of the Colloquium Series was delivered by Dr. Ram D. Sriram, NIST, Gaithersburg, USA on December 19, 2018. In his talk, he provided a unified framework for Internet of Things, Cyber-

Physical Systems, and Smart Networked Systems and Societies, along with a brief introduction to Industry 4.0. He also discussed various research issues and representative projects undertaken at NIST.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering organized a talk by Padma Shri Dr Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi, ISRO, titled Propulsion Technology at ISRO: Challenges Faced, and Future on September 19, 2018.

The Thermal Rocket Engine is considered in isolation from the way the hot gas, which is the working fluid, is produced. The basic principle of operation of both liquid and solid fueled engines is the same, but behind the broad principles, technical issues have a significant impact on efficiency and performance. The lecture focused on the development and issues faced by ISRO during its initial development

pertaining to engine designing, material selection and fabrication. In addition, it also focused on the advanced propulsion system like the 'Cryogenic Rocket Engine' with regenerative cooled thrust chambers and high-speed turbo pump realization.



Distinguished Lectures and Guest Lecture Series

Sl No.	Guest Lecture by	Organisation	Topic of the talk	Date
1.	Prof D P Rao	IIT Delhi	Opportunities and challenges of chemical engineers	Aug 7, 2018
2.	Mr Sidharth Chauhan	Assistant Professor, NALSAR, Hyderabad	Understanding The Capacity Constraints Of The Indian Judicial System	Aug 8, 2018
3.	Dr Deepak Vaid	NIT Surathkal	Connecting Loop Quantum Gravity and String Theory via Quantum Geometry	Aug 14, 2018
4.	Prof Padmini Swaminathan	Noted economist and visiting Professor, Council for Social Development, Hyderabad	Capitalist Globalization: Consequences for Labour and Environment	Aug 29, 2018
5.	Dr Gayatri Nair	Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Science- Hyderabad	The Other Half Of The Pink Revolution; Koli Women, Labour And Politics In The Fisheries Of Mumbai	Sep 5, 2018
6.	Prof Patrick Dasgupta	Delhi University	Universe under the grip of dark forces	Sep 6, 2018
7.	Dr Amit Chakraborty	High Energy Accelerator Research Organization	Japan Challenges and Opportunities in Monojet Signatures at the LHC	Sep 10, 2018
8.	Mr Rakesh	Founder, and CEO of Mobijini, former head	Supply Chain Management - Issues and Challenges	Sep 15, 2018
9.	Padma Shri Dr Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi	ISRO	Propulsion Technology at ISRO: Challenges Faced and Future	Sep 19, 2018
10.	Prof M Sivakumar	University of Hyderabad	How effective is Field Theory	Sep 27, 2018

SI No.	Guest Lecture by	Organisation	Topic of the talk	Date
11.	Prof AS Vasudeva Murthy	TIFR Centre for Applicable Mathematics	The String Equation of Narasimha	Sep 27, 2018
12.	Prof Purendra Prasad	Head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Hyderabad	Contemporary Indian Cities and 'Smart' Growth Models: Some Reflections	Sep 28, 2018
13.	Prof Naresh Kumar Sharma	Dean of School of Economics, University of Hyderabad	Gandhian Economic Thought: An Appraisal of Foundational Concepts in Economics	Sep 29, 2018
14.	Dr R Murali Krishna	GE Power	Global Engineering Research Trends and Opportunities for Engineering Graduates	Oct 01, 2018
15.	Dr V S Rao	Hyderabad University	Development of Microelectronics circuits	Oct 3, 2018
16.	Dr Aalok Khandekar	Assistant Professor of Anthropology/ Sociology at Department of Liberal Arts, IITH	Air Pollution Governance in 6+ Cities: Findings, Theory, Tactics	Oct 24, 2018
17.	Dr Anand Parey	IIT-Indore	Gear Fault Diagnosis	Nov 24, 2018
18.	Prof Shobha Madan	IIT Kanpur	Mathematics of Wobbly Tables, Honey Bee hives and art from straight lines	Nov 1, 2018
19.	Prof R P Pandey	DG, NPTI and Professor, IIT BHU	Renewable Energy based Smart Grid & Strategic Control	Nov 2, 2018
20.	Prof Badri Narayan Rath	Associate Professor of Economics, IIT Hyderabad	Export Diversification, Economic Growth and Convergence: Evidence from Cross-Country Analysis	Nov 12, 2018
21.	Prof Subhabrata Majumdar	TIFR	The darkness that surrounds us	Nov 14, 2018
22.	Prof Tarun Souradeep Ghosh	Inter University Centre for Astronomy & Astrophysics	Driven by quests: Hearing aids & polarized glasses for space-time ripples	Nov 15, 2018
23.	Dr Venkataramana M	Principal Data Scientist	Workshop on R, Department of Economics	Nov 17-18, 2018
24.	Mr R V Saradhi	Kuwait Oil Company	Crude Oil and Natural Gas processing	Nov 20, 2018
25.	Prof V D Sharma	IIT Mumbai	Differential Equations	Nov 27, 2018
26.	Mr William De Oreo	(President and Principal Engineer of Aquacraft, Inc, USA	Water audits and their role in municipal water management	Nov 30, 2018
27.	Dr Jai Prakash	Director, Engineering Operations	Micron Activities in Memory	Oct 24, 2018
28.	Mr Hua Zeng	Director, Shanghai Design Centre	Storage Devices Overview	Oct 24, 2018

Faculty Awards

- Dr Souvik Kundu, Assistant Professor (Gr-I), EEE Department, Hyderabad Campus, won the Best Paper & Presentation Award and presided as Session Chair at ICNSE 2018, Venice, Italy, **November 14, 2018**.
- Dr Soumya J, Assistant Professor (Gr-I), EEE Department, Hyderabad Campus, was a Program Committee member and Session Chair at ISES-2018, **December 17-18, 2018**
- Prof Sanket Goel, Associate Professor, EEE Department, Hyderabad Campus, was appointed as Associate Editor, IEEE Sensors Journal
- Dr Rajesh Kumar Tripathy, Assistant Professor, EEE Department, Hyderabad Campus, received dollar 120 as honorarium from Elsevier for reviewing a book proposal.
- Prof Komaragiri Srinivasa Raju, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Hyderabad Campus, was appointed as Member, Board of Studies (BOS) in Civil Engineering/ Water Resources in Anurag Group of Institutions, Hyderabad for a period of one year, **December 18, 2018**.
- Prof Kumar Pranav Narayan received 'Best Professor in Biological Sciences" Dewang Mehta National Education Award (Regional Round), at Taj Banjara, Hyderabad on **November 16, 2018**.
- Prof Kumar Pranav Narayan (BITS) played a key role in developing potent platform technology to treat aggressive and relapsing cancers along with Dr Rajkumar Banerjee (Principal Scientist, IICT, Hyderabad).
- Dr Amit A Vernekar was felicitated for the excellence in science research by Deepotsav committee, Sanquelim Goa, **November 6, 2018**.
- Dr Amit A Vernekar was invited to join the preliminary selection panel to evaluate the applications received for the prestigious 'Reaxys Ph.D. prize", 2019 (International), **December 19, 2018**
- Dr Subhrakanta Panda received Best Paper Award in the 6th International Conference on Applied Science Engineering and Technology (ICASET-2018) at IFERP, Puducherry during **December 29-30, 2018**.
- The Computer Science Association has been rated as **Best Technical Association for the year 2018**.
- Prof Bivudutta Mishra was selected as a member of International Advisory Committee for International Conference on Physical Interpretation of Relativity Theory, Department of Physics, Bauman Moscow State Technical University, to be held at Moscow, **July 1- 5, 2019**.
- Dr Manish Kumar was awarded Open Arms Grants (Geographical Region: Asia & Pacific) sponsored by IMPA – Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada and SBM – Sociedade Brasileira de Matemática, with a generous contribution by IMU – International Mathematical Union to attend the International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) during **August 1-9, 2018** at Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL.
- Dr Nirmal J, received ICMR International travel grant for attending ARVO 2018 conference in USA.
- Prof Aranya Bhuti Bhattacharjee was appointed as 'German Academic Research Ambassador' at DAAD Research Ambassador Meet, **September 22, 2018**, New Delhi.
- Dr Amit A Vernekar received Outstanding Reviewer Citation by Science of the Total Environment, an Elsevier publication, **October, 2018**
- Dr Bheemeshwar Reddy A was awarded a travel grant from the Population Association of America to attend the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, **April 26-28, 2018**, in Denver Colorado, USA.
- Dr Durgesh Chandra Pathak received a Certificate of Excellence in Reviewing – in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the 2018 Global Conference on Business and Economics organized by the Association of North America Higher Education International, **July 2018**.

- Dr Sudatta Banerjee: Certificate of excellence in Reviewing – in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the 2018 Global Conference on Business and Economics organized by the Association of North America Higher Education International, **July 2018**.
- Dr Manish Kumar was awarded Open Arms Grants (Geographical Region: Asia & Pacific) sponsored by IMPA – Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada and SBM – Sociedade Brasileira de Matemática, with a generous contribution by IMU – International Mathematical Union to attend the International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) during **August 1-9 , 2018** at Rio de Janeiro, BRAZIL

Student Awards and Achievements

- Mr V Hari Krishnan (2010B5A3402H), who joined Bhabha Atomic Research Centre after graduating from BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus received the Homi Bhabha Medal for nuclear reactor physics for his performance during the training period.
- Mr Gajraj Rathore (2015A5PS0869H), fourth year undergraduate in B. Pharm has recently completed summer internship from University of Sherbrooke, Canada through the prestigious Mitacs Globalink program. With the acceptance rate of ~1% Mitacs provides world class opportunity to students aiming to pursue career in research.
- Mr Samrun Nessa (Ph.D student) presented paper (Title: GPS-Aided Study of Larval Indices of *Aedes aegypti* and Analysis of Risk of Dengue Outbreak) in 'Interdisciplinary Conference on Healthcare and Technical Research', Manipal and won First Prize under Healthcare category.
- Mr Ridahunlang Nongkhaw (Ph. D student) received the best oral presentation award in Indian Eye Research Group (IERG) annual meeting (ARVO, Indian chapter), Hyderabad for the paper 'Transporter Targeted Ocular Delivery system to improve ocular bioavailability of drugs'.

- Mr Aditya Mishra (2016B4AB0532) visited Malaysia during **August 16-20, 2018** for HPAIR (Harvard project for Asian and international relations) Asia conference.
- Mr Vibhu Aggrawal (2018) pursued off campus thesis under the supervision of Prof Jayaram K Udapa, University of Pennsylvania, USA on 'Automatic localization of body regions on CT and PET/CT images via deep learning' during **July - December, 2018**.
- Ms Ahana Ghosh (2018) pursued off campus thesis under the supervision of Prof Adish Singla, Max Planck Institute of Software Systems, Germany on 'Adversarial Reinforcement Learning' during **June 8 - November 30, 2018**.



Team Vulcan, a local chapter of the SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers International) run by dedicated students and faculty of the BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus secured an AIR 13, Enduro Student India Quiz & AIR 5 (New Teams) in SAEBAJA Virtuals.

The Patents

Dr Ruchi Jain Dey, Department of Biological Science, received a US Patent on **November 29, 2018** (Patent No. WO2016130616A1) for a genetically engineered vaccine with a potential against tuberculosis and cancer.

Title of the patent is Bacteria over-expressing c-di-amp and therapeutic methods;

Sponsored Research Projects

Sl. No	Title of the project	Principal Investigator	Department	Sanctioned amount of the project (Rs)	Funding Agency	Duration	Sanctioned date
1.	Fundamental physics in strong gravitational field of neutron stars	Dr Sarmistha Banik (PI) Dr Asrarul Haque (Co-PI)	Physics	24,39,650	DAE-BRNS	3 years	05.07.2018
2.	Engineered Nanomaterials: New Biomimetic and catalytic approaches for biomedical applications	Dr Amit Vernekar	Chemistry	35,00,000	DST INSPIRE	5 years	31.07.2018
3.	Development and characterization of emulsion based drug product for the management of emetogenic cancer chemotherapy	Dr Akash Chaurasiya	Pharmacy	3,95,300	Slay back Pharma	1 year	24.07.2018
4.	Cracking of hydrocarbon fuel for a possible heat sink applications	Dr Srikanta Dinda	Chemical Engineering	40,65,000	DRDO	2 years	01.08.2018
5.	Conditional Pathogenesis: Understanding why potentially beneficial rhizobacteria turn pathogenic under certain environmental conditions	Dr Sridev Mohapatra (PI) Prof Naga Mohan K (CO-PI)	Biological Sciences	45,16,800	DBT	3 years	31.08.2018
6.	Digital 3D printed electronic technology for space electronic packaging applications	Prof Sanket Goel	EEE	26,36,000	ISRO	3 years	02.08.2018
7.	Resistance to the Western Ghats Conservation and Undercurrents: A study of the people's protest and the role of the local bodies in Iduki, Kerela	Dr Lavanya Suresh	Humanities and Social Sciences	3,15,000	Center for Development Studies (CDS)	16 months	25.09.2018
8.	Incubating a discourse for Cooperation, Contentment, and Care: to Enable Justice for All	Dr Lavanya Suresh	Humanities and Social Sciences	2,95,000	NALSAR	8 months	10.09.2018
9.	Novel approach to develop computational pipeline to predict functions of cysteines in Proteins of Unknown Function (PUFs) and Domains of Unknown Function (DUFs), based on protein microenvironments	Dr Debashree Bandyopadhyay	Biological Sciences	19,42,800	DST	3 years	26.09.2018
10.	Ultra cold chemistry of molecular ions	Dr Subhas Goshal	Chemistry	24,00,959	DST	3 years	01.10.2018

Sl. No	Title of the project	Principal Investigator	Department	Sanctioned amount of the project (Rs)	Funding Agency	Duration	Sanctioned date
11.	Determination of wound healing (pro-angiogenic properties of peptide conjugate)	Dr Onkar Kulkarne	Pharmacy	8,00,000	DRDO	1 year	03.10.2018
12.	Network Coding with Pascal coefficients for unreliable networks	Dr Paresh Saxena	CSIS	5,55,607	AnsuR Technologies, Oslo, Norway	4 months	15.10.2018
13.	Preparation and Characterization of electrode materials for Lithium ion Batteries"	Dr Sounak Roy	Chemistry	7,00,000	HBL	1 year	01.10.2018
14.	Understanding the role of long non coding RNA's (lnc RNA's) in transforming growth factor – beta (TGF- β) pathway in Glioblastoma.	Dr Vivek Sharma	Biological Sciences	47,26,480	DST	3 years	16.11.2018
15	Identification of the regulatory mechanisms executed by bile acids during inflammation induced colon cancer	Dr Trinath Jamma	Biological Sciences	43,82,650	DST	3 years	16.11.2018
16	AIE studies of newly designed anthracene-based co-ordination compounds and their applications	Dr Atasi Mukherjee - WOS Under Prof. Manab Chakravarty	Chemistry	31,55,000	DST-WOS-A	3 years	16.11.2018
17	Wind Resistant Design for proposed LIGO India Observatory	Dr Sabareesh G R (PI) Dr Rahul Nigam (Co-PI) Dr K Ramachandra Murthi (Co-PI)	Mechanical Engineering	44,81,800	LIGO India	3 years	28.12.2018
18	Women's Employment, Interstate Variations and Time-use: A Comparative Study of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh	Prof Sunny Jose Dr Bheemeshwar Reddy R (Co-PI)	Humanities and Social Sciences	13,00,000	Azim Premji University	2 years	17.12.2018
19.	Network coding with Pascal coefficient for unreliable network	Dr Paresh Saxena (PI)	Computer Science and Information Systems	5,55,607	AnsuR Technologies, Oslo, Norway	5 months	22.10.2018
20.	Infrastructural Facility	Prof D Sriram (PI) & Department of Pharmacy	Department of Pharmacy	138.00 lakhs	DST-FIST project	5 years	27.12.2018

IPCD

IPCD provided partial financial support to thirteen students who pursued their off-campus thesis in foreign universities

- Saurabh Khandelwal, Harvard Medical School
- Dipika Badri, Dresden, Germany
- M Vivek Vardhan, Washington University
- Parakh M Gupta, University of Pennsylvania
- Venkat Mohit Surnapudi, Leiden University
- Piyush Rath, RWTH Aachen
- Yash Raj Jain, Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Germany
- Arvind A S, Nanyang Tech University, Singapore
- Kartik Srivastava, Nanyang Tech University, Singapore
- Mohit Upadhyay Nanyang Tech University, Singapore
- Anand S Shankar Nationwide Children's Hospital Research institute, affiliated to Ohio State University
- Sarthak Jain, Korea Advanced institute of Science & Tech, Kaist
- Vibhu Agrawal, University of Pennsylvania

International visitors to the campus are as follows:

- On August 2, Prof Richard de Grijs, Associate Dean Global Engagement, Faculty of Science & Engineering, and Dr. Abhaya Nayak Associate Professor Department of Computing, Macquarie University visited the campus.
- On August 10, Ms Sudhakumar, Director, India Office, USC Viterbi School of Engineering interacted with our students.



Delegates from Taiwan with Prof B Mishra (L) and Prof Suman Kapur (R)

- On September 19, Dr. Raghu Santanam, Professor & Chair, Dept. of Info System, W. P. Carey School of Business; Dr. Pat Phelan, Assistant Dean, Graduate Programs, Professor of Mechanical & Aerospace Engg, Ira A. Fulton School of Engg., and Niky Chokshi, Recruitment Advisor, Graduate Admissions - from Arizona State University visited the campus.
- On September 27, delegates from Taiwan, representing the following universities/ organizations visited the campus:
 - Nanhua University
 - National Tsing Hua University
 - CTBC Busi School
 - National Tsing Hua University
 - National Cheng Kung University
 - National Chiao Tung University
 - National Formosa University
 - National Taiwan University
 - National Yunlin University of Science & Technology,
 - Tamkang University
 - Providence University
 - CoreTech System Co., Ltd., and
 - Taiwan Edn Centre, India



Prof G Sundar with a delegate of National Tsing Hua University

They had meetings with Prof G Sundar, Director; Prof Suman Kapur, Dean IPCD; and Prof Bivudutta Mishra, Associate Dean IPCD, among others.

- On October 3, Melissa Mc Ardle of University of Queensland, visited the campus and interacted with the students. She offered three years UG at BITS and two years in the University of Queensland in succession, whereby the students would be awarded BITS degree and UQ's masters.
- On October 9, Dr. Kevin Broadbelt, Assoc Prof., Biotech, and Dr. Stephen Amato, Global Regulatory Affairs, Higher Education Administrator from North Eastern University representatives visited the campus.



Prof B Mishra with the delegates from North Eastern University

- On November 16, a team headed by Prof Idaku ISHII, Professor, Robotics Laboratory, Department of System Cybernetics, Graduate School of Engineering from Hiroshima University visited the campus and interacted with faculty and students.
- On November 21, Prof. Simon Washington, Head of School of Civil Engineering, University of Queensland interacted with the faculty & students of civil engineering, BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad campus.
- On December 11, Prof Rajiv Dubey from USF visited the campus and interacted with Mech faculty.

Two MoUs were signed; one with Kaohsiung Medical University, and another with Nanhua University – both from Taiwan

A total of 16 students applied for 3+2 opportunities in University of Queensland; and two students applied for UQ endeavor scheme. Against student opportunities in Arizona State University, 14 students applied. Similarly, against opportunities in Macquarie University for female students; three students applied. Four students applied for projects in University of South Florida.

Two faculty members who completed their projects under GCRF abroad are Bandhan Majumdar, and Chandrasekher. Similarly, the faculty members engaged in collaborative projects were Prof. Suman Kapur, Hyderabad; Prof. Sunny Jose, Hyderabad, and Prof. N. N. Ghose from K. K. Birla Goa campus.

Open Houses were conducted by Prof. Suman Kapur, Dean IPCD, on September 7, September 22.

Various student/faculty opportunities were offered by IPCD. Some of them are:

- DAAD communique re: Hr. Education opportunities and Beyond,
- Faculty opportunity; Newton Bhabha Workshops for Women,
- Opportunities in the Ningbo Campus of Nottingham University,
- Information on Indo-US call for proposals,
- S N Bose students opportunities,
- Charpak Exchange Scholarship offered by the Embassy of France in India,
- Invitation by UBC Vancouver Summer Program'19; communication, and
- Globalink Research Award for faculty members to undertake research projects between Canadian students or postdoctoral fellows with similar candidates in other in partner countries, etc.

The division has been able to offer better visibility to the IPCD on the website, by creating a button titled "International Relations" at the top of the main website <https://www.bits-pilani.ac.in/university/ipcd/home>. This should make users access quite easy. The division has already initiated steps towards the ensuing semesters' internationalization activities, like receiving application for Partial Financial Support to students doing off-campus thesis abroad, and supporting students doing semester abroad.

Sports Events

Faculty Vs Students Sports Event

The conclusion of the first edition of Faculty vs Students sports competition was met with duly warranted enthusiasm. With the youthful vigour of the students matched up against the sheer experience of their teachers, the spirit of competition was kindled in the heat of the sport. The results of the Faculty vs Student Competitions which received a participation of roughly 30 teachers and students respectively were:

Badminton

Winners – Prasad Reddy and Dr Rishi
Runners-Up – Mr Prashant Inturi and Mr Haridas

Volleyball

Winners – Students team
(Match was close and students won with 2-1 sets)

Cricket

Winners – Students team

Faculty team – 98/6 (15 overs)

Students team – 99/7 (14 overs)

Initiating this event for the first time Sohit Deva, the boys Sports Secretary had to face some difficulties too but after the resounding success of the event and receiving positive feedbacks from the faculty he plans to hold it each semester.

Redbull



Redbull had a lot to offer in the last semester. They conducted various tournaments on the campus. The Redbull Neymar jr.5 tournament was the best of them all. The tournament is played on a global scale and Redbull

conducted a pre final qualifier for their city based finale on our campus. The team winning the pre-qualifiers had a direct entry to the Hyderabad city finals. This famous tournament with rules modified to match the Neymar Jr.5 way took the campus by storm and free redbulls were the icing on the cake.

Frisbee:



Despite being a new entrant in the BPHC's sports line-up, ultimate Frisbee team hosted several matches and bolstered their standing in the Hyderabad as well as the entire Indian circuit. They did a very good job last semester by increasing their team capacity four fold and an even better job by training the new inductees well. The last semester saw many friendly matches and HATs (a type of competition), but the best part was to be able to host the south central sectionals of the UPAI (Ultimate Players Association of India) National Championship Series. All in all, the team is doing great and is gearing up to participate in National college ultimate championship.

10th Library Book Festival (October 22-28, 2018)



A week long Annual Book Festival was organised by the Library in association with the Campus Book Store between 22 and 28 October. Over 20 leading publishers participated in this event and around 25k books on various subjects including self-help, books for competitive examinations and children's books were on display. Faculty and students were encouraged to recommend the books from the display to the library. From the display, over 2000 books were recommended to the library. Apart from the students and the faculty, the community on the campus also showed keen interest in purchasing the books during the book festival. More than 4000 people visited the 10th Book festival that ended on October 28, 2018.



Student Festivals

ATMOS, Technical Fest, Hyderabad Campus, October 26-28, 2018.

ATMOS, the technical fest of the campus was conducted from October 26-28, 2018. The theme this year was 'Into the Sixth Dimension.' Over the three days, a series of thrilling competitions, workshops and events was conducted, including a plethora of talks ranging from talk on python programming under the famous PyBits, artificial intelligence, drug optimisations, etc capped by a talk from the eminent Dr Subramanian Swamy. The event saw students trying their hands at a lot of different things and learning from the experience. The food trucks brought a welcome change from the students daily mess meals. The evenings included exhilarating pro shows by stand-up comedian Naveen Richards, illusionist Arjun Guru and EDM artist, Zaedan. The nights saw numerous movie screenings which kept the students awake all night. All in all, it was an enjoyable time for both tech enthusiasts and non-tech enthusiasts alike.

Dr Subramanian Swamy – in conversation with Journalist Sriram Karri



Inaugural of ATMOS 2018: Chief Guest Dr B Janardhan Reddy



Workshops organised during ATMOS - 2018



Stock Broking Workshop by Mr. Faisul Hafizur Rahman



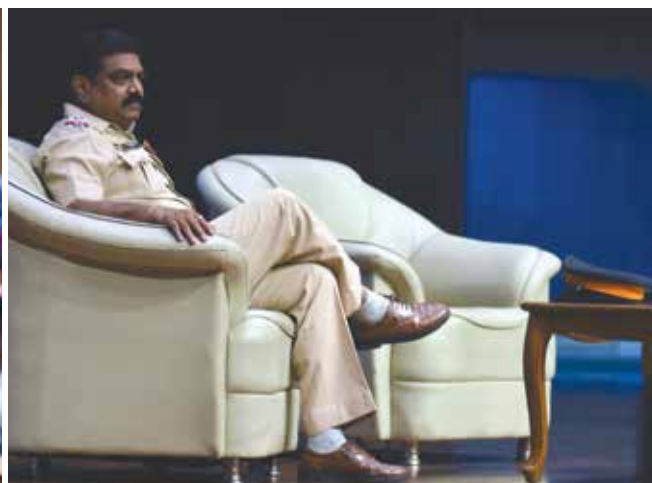
A talk on voicing sexual abuse: 'Unheard'



Various Technical competitions conducted during ATMOS



A Gender sensitization program by IG. (CRPF South) Mr. GHP Raju



Mr Sanjay Govilkar (An Ode to 26/11, ATMOS)

SANSKRITI

Sanskriti, the annual cultural night put up by various regional associations on the campus, was conducted on 14 November, 2018. The event gave a platform to a plethora of associations from all over the nation to display their respective cultures, through a series related to music, dance, skits and even stand up comedy.

The performances included not only the traditional art forms of several states but also, modern trends and transformations, further providing proof of an ever-evolving culture.

It was an opportunity for the students to take pride in their regional culture and heritage. Students were able to feel closer to their roots, despite being far from home. The variety of performances showcased the cultural diversity on the campus.



Social Initiatives

Disbursing Relief Material for Kerala Floods (NSS)



As we are all aware of the fact that Kerala was under huge distress due to unprecedented floods with death toll reaching more than 250, there was a small initiative taken up by Nirmaan, NSS and the Maitri Sangham to contribute from their side in the form of cash or kind. They organized a Kerala Donation Drive inside the campus on 20th August 2018 in order to collect materials which could help the people of the state. The volunteers of the same received help from all members and have sent the consignments. The 1st consignment was sent on 19th August 2018 consisted of food, medicines, brush, toothpaste, ropes, soaps, detergents and biscuits packets. The 2nd consignment which was sent on 24th August 2018 consisted of clothes, rice, food items, medicines, brush, toothpaste, mosquito repellents, soaps, candles, torch lights, sanitary pads and diapers.

Blood Donation Drive (NSS)



The NSS held a Blood Donation Drive from the October 27-29, 2018. The initiative was held simultaneously with ATMOS and was met with a huge turnout from the students. Interested students gathered near the Medical Centre where they donated blood. The event was held in association with the Rotary Club.

Public Awareness Session on the Disease of Addiction (ICC)

The Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) held a talk on Deaddiction on 16th November, 2018. The talk dealt with the pernicious impact of drug addiction in lives of the people. Mr. Suresh M. and Mr. Srinivas A., both of whom worked as counsellors for a long period of time led the discussion.

They suggested various methods to wear off from the same and emphasized on the role of rehabilitation and the support and assistance of family can provide in such cases.

Run for Unity (GAD)



Run For Unity Marathon was organized in the campus by GAD on Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, October 31, 2018 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. The marathon saw a good turnout of students and faculty and the event proved to be ideal in spreading awareness about Sardar Patel's contribution towards integrating India into one single nation and his role in the Indian freedom struggle.

Gender Champion (Humanities and Social Science Department, Hyderabad in collaboration with the UGC)

This year the UGC, initiated the 'Gender Champions in educational institutions' initiative which was started in an attempt to ensure gender equality in colleges.

Under this scheme, two student representatives – Aishwarya Rebelly and Rweetam Bhattacharya – were chosen to raise awareness about the various issues surrounding gender and sensitize the students on these. Three events were conducted on campus, in collaboration with organisations such as the Firefly Community and Human Library Hyderabad, for this purpose. These events attempted to bring to the limelight the experiences of those who are usually ostracised.

The first of these events, Unheard included survivors of sexual abuse coming forward to speak out about their experience in an attempt to break the stigma surrounding sexual abuse.

Out and About 2.0, which was conducted during ATMOS was an open mic where members of the LGBTQ+ shared their stories and answered questions on the many misconceptions about their identity.

The third event, Human Library Hyderabad, that was organised in collaboration with the Journal Club and the Humanities and Social Sciences Department showcased how diverse humans are, with a variety of people with unconventional professions and lifestyles narrating their individual experiences.

Despite being a new initiative, the events garnered a lot of attention and were appreciated.



Program on Prevention of Malaria and Dengue



On 27th July, a program for children of age group 6 yrs – 15 yrs was organized by Prof A Sajeli Begum & Dr Swati Alok. It dealt with spreading awareness transmission of

Dengue Fever and good practices that can help us fight the Dengue. The efforts and program was well-appreciated and attended by several enthusiastic children and their parents.



Talk organised by HSS on Suicide Prevention

A session on 'Understanding Depression and Warning Signs of Suicide' was organized by The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences & Academic Counselling Cell on September 18, 2018 in the Seminar Hall. The session was conducted by Luvlina Bharadwaj, who has been working with 'Roshni', a Voluntary Organization that provides free, confidential, emotional support to the distressed, depressed and suicidal. Mrs Bhardwaj is also a founder member of a citizen's initiative called 'Break the Silence' that is working to prevent Child Sexual Abuse through educational workshops for teachers, parents and primary school children.



Joy of Giving Week (Nirman) – School Adoption Program (SAP) (NIRMAN) (10th -15th August 2018).

The new term with the newly inducted volunteers started off with visits to nearby government schools in Malkaram, Upperpally and Pothaipally. Activities were conducted for independence day and prizes were distributed to winners on the special occasion. On the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, a Clay Ganesha workshop was conducted for the kids of these schools. The workshop is conducted annually where kids are taught the basic structure and left to explore the rest with their own creativity.

Manthan'18, an NGO summit October 27, 2018 (NIRMAN)

The annual summit saw participation from both NGOs and student chapters of reputed colleges. Topics of great relevance like creating livelihood opportunities to preservation of cultural heritage were wholeheartedly discussed and debated upon. With participation from organizations with huge field experience, there was a lot to learn for the student chapter members. Nirmaan Organisation this year held the DaanUtsav on the campus, a one of its kind week long festival of giving-money, time, resources and skills. Events included Joy of Serving, Message of Joy, a School Painting initiative.



Graduands Party and Bitsian Day

- Graduands Farewell party was organized on November 29, 2018 in the Library Quadrangle. All the graduating students came together for the event that was graced by the Director. Heartful words were exchanged between the faculty and the students. After a few to-be graduates and faculty spoke on the stage and recounted their best memories, the wonderful evening concluded with a memorable dinner.
- The BITSian community comes together in every way they can; virtual or offline. Celebrated on the first Friday of August every year, BITSians' day 2018 was celebrated with pomp. We had three speakers this year: Naresh Veeram, Sanket Deshpande and Shreya Nimma, in collaboration with BITS Embryo. They recounted their campus lives, and gave the students pointers on how to be well prepared, for college and post-college escapades.



Activities Conducted by Community Welfare Unit



Prof. G Sundar felicitating one of the Independence Day Run winners

The community welfare unit (CWU) coordinates the welfare and recreational activities of the faculty and staff members of the institute and also the functioning of the medical centre. Clinic management software has been installed in the medical centre to streamline patient information and records. A lady doctor, a male nurse and a lab technician have joined the medical centre last year. The medical centre also has a nurse on duty 24 x 7 to attend to patients. A dentist visits once a week and a gynaecologist visits twice a week to the medical centre.

The community celebrated a week long Ganesh Puja, Independence Day and New Year. The celebrations ended with cultural performance from kids and adults in the community in the auditorium. Professionals visit the campus to teach musical instruments, classical dance and classical music. Community Sports competition were organized for the third time for community members. Various schools from the city visited the campus to make presentations regarding their curriculum and extracurricular activities and also had an interaction session with parents to answer their concerns and queries. The community also celebrated children's day, where faculty and staff children participated in different games in the children park.



Patriotic song on the eve of Independence Day



Mr. Rajneesh Mishra and Prof. Sandeep Deshmukh distributing a token of appreciation to the maintenance staff



Ganesh Chaturthi Celebrations



Cultural programs on the eve of Ganesh Chaturthi

The community recently expanded the space for JGI School from 3 rooms to six rooms and provided infrastructure facility to the teaching staff of the School including new water dispensers, desktop, table, air conditioner etc. The community also expanded the medical centre facilities by providing new diagnostic kits, air conditioners, water dispensers and BSL training programmes for medical doctors.



Children's day celebrations in the campus on November 14, 2018.



Cultural performances by children on campus during Ganesh Chaturthi.



Other Cultural Festivities on Campus

Musical Event by Spic Macay



The already well established music culture on campus got a taste of professional Carnatic music last semester. SPIC MACAY, in collaboration with Swaranjali and NSS organised a first of a kind concert featuring Sikkil C Gurucharan. A youth ambassador for the future of Carnatic music, he has performed at various sabhas in India and abroad and is also a certified 'A' grade artist for the All India Radio. The concert was held on November 16th and saw many people listen to Carnatic music for the first time while others came just to enjoy the aura that it has.

Bathukamma Festival



Bathukamma is the colorful floral festival of the Telangana-State. This was exuberantly celebrated in the campus on 11th, 13th and 15th October with exquisite and exotic flower decorations. Along with the rhythmic dance, folk songs of were sung enthusiastically in chorus by women signifying the exuberant spirit of the festival.

Durga Pooja



- Durga Pooja is one of the widely celebrated traditional festivals in India. It symbolises the beginning of the winter season. West Bengal is especially famous for its vibrant and colourful celebrations.
- The Campus Regional Associations of West Bengal (Geetanjali), Odisha (Utkal Samaj), and Central India (Sangam) came together and took charge of conducting the festivities on campus. A pandal was set up and the traditional pujas were conducted regularly over the week. The highlight was the Sandhi Pujo and Pushpanjali offered on all 3 days.

Other light-hearted events like rasgulla (Roshogolla) eating competition and a cultural night were conducted to get the entire campus involved in these festivities .

The celebrations made the campus more colourful and livelier than usual, and were enjoyed by all.

Introducing New Faculty (August 1st – December 31st 2018)

S.No.	Name of Faculty	Designation	Discipline	Date of Joining
23	Narasimha Bolloju	Visiting Professor	Computer Science & Information Systems	1-Aug-18
24	Deepika	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Mathematics	1-Aug-18
25	Karumbaiah C N	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	1-Oct-18
26	Anhiti Patnaik	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Humanities and Social Sciences	1-Oct-18
27	Paresh Saxena	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Computer Science & Information Systems	1-Oct-18
28	Aswathy Raveendran	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Humanities and Social Sciences	15-Oct-18
29	Ravi Shanker Vidyarthi	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Mechanical Engineering	10-Dec-18
30	Gurugubelli Venkata Pradha Saradhi	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Mechanical Engineering	17-Dec-18
31	Prasanta Kumar Sahu	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Civil Engineering	17-Dec-18
32	Raghunathan Rajasekaran	Associate Professor	Economics and Finance	19-Dec-18
33	Parikshit Parshuram Sahatiya	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	20-Dec-18
34	Shilpaa Anand	Associate Professor	Humanities and Social Sciences	20-Dec-18
35	Subit Kumar Saha	Professor	Chemistry	22-Dec-18
36	Rajib Ranjan Maiti	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Computer Sci & Information Systems	28-Dec-18
37	Prashant K Wali	Assistant Professor, Gr-I	Electrical & Electronics Engineering	29-Dec-18

New Centres



Inauguration of CRE lab, Department of Chemical Engineering, Hyderabad Campus September 24, 2018.

New Academic Blocks



Inauguration of new academic Blocks H & I

New Eateries opened in the campus (July - December)



Chipotle Asian Grill



Euro Cafe



Diamond Eatery



Wich Please



Editorial team: (L to R) Mr Prasanth Inturi, Ms Aishwarya Rebelly, Dr Santosh Mahapatra, Dr Maya Vinai, Dr Lavanya, Ms C. KavyaSree

