

Annual Report 2014-15
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR

Major Activities

1. Reunions

The pass out batches visit their alma mater in a group, after a substantial gap and relive their sweet memories. This is also the occasion when they look back at the Institute and put their thoughts together and offer their suggestions. Sometimes they also make a pledge to offer monetary or intellectual contributions.

During 2014-15, the following reunions took place :

- (i) Golden Jubilee Reunion of the Batch-of-1964 from November 21-23, 2014
- (ii) 20th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1994 from December 24-25, 2014
- (iii) Silver Jubilee Reunion the Class-of-1990 from December 26-28, 2014
- (iv) 30th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1984 from January 2-4, 2015
- (v) 35th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1980 from January 9-11, 2015
- (vi) 40th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1975 from February 1-3, 2015
- (vii) Pioneer Batch Golden Jubilee Reunion March 12-15, 2015

On all the occasions, the Director, had on behalf of the Institute and the Alumni Association of IIT Kanpur, cordially invited the alumni and their family members to visit their Alma Mater for reunions. All arrangements for the reunion were made by the Alumni Association office. The alumni visited their respective departments, interacted with faculty, staff and students. They were greeted by the Secretary, Alumni Association, Den of Resources and Alumni Relations, and many faculty members. Felicitation events were organized at the Director's residence, where Prof. Indranil Manna spoke to the alumni and also gave them an opportunity to share their thoughts and feedback to help their alma mater to reach greater heights.

(i) Golden Jubilee Reunion of the Batch-of-1964 from November 21-23, 2014

Batch of 1964, which joined the Institute 50 years ago, was invited for Golden Jubilee Reunion Celebration from November 21 to 23, 2014. Nearly 38 alumni from India and abroad had come for the event and rekindled their memories of yester-years, most of them attended the event with their families. On the first day of reunion, after their breakfast at Visitor Hostel, registration for the reunion started at the registration desk set by staff of Alumni Association. An Introductory session of the batch was held in Outreach Auditorium. The reunion was formally inaugurated by the Director Prof. Indranil Manna at the Outreach Auditorium. Alumni shared their knowledge and experience of their respective field of work.

(ii) 20th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1994 from December 24-25, 2014

The 20th Reunion of the Class-of-1994 was held in the IIT Kanpur campus from December 24-25, 2014. Around 31 alumni attended the reunion from India and abroad, most of them with their families. Alumni started arriving from the morning of December 24, 2014 onwards. In spite of the cancellation of flights and trains running late due to bad weather conditions prevailing in north India these alumni visited their alma mater on the eve of the 20th Reunion.

(iii) Silver Jubilee Reunion the Class-of-1990 from December 26-28, 2014

The Class-of-1990, had started the preparation for the batch's Silver Jubilee Reunion more than a year ago and it was wonderfully organized in the campus from December 26 to 28, 2014. Even the heavy fog and severe biting cold weather could not dampen the batch mates from meeting with their old pals and reminiscing the days spent in the IIT Kanpur 25 years ago. Although Kanpur recorded the lowest temperature in the northern plains during the reunion days, 119 alumni with their family members joined the reunion braving the severe weather conditions from India and abroad. All the travel, boarding and lodging arrangements were made by Alumni Association office. Many of the enthusiastic alumni started arriving on 26th December itself. A control room with Registration desk was set up in the VH. The registration kit included the reunion schedule, IITK map to give them a glimpse of changes in the campus, invitations for the events, SJR notepad, pen and other souvenirs. The energy and enthusiasm seen in the alumni coming to visit their Alma mater looked like they were still student.

(iv) 30th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1984 from January 2-4, 2015

On January 02, 2015 the attendees gathered in the Outreach Auditorium for a formal Welcome ceremony. Prof. Indranil Manna, the Director, IIT Kanpur, on the behalf of the Institute extended a very warm welcome to the alumni. Nearly 21 alumni of the batch from all walks of life responded to the invitation and bearing all odds of weather arrived in the campus for the reunion.

(v) 35th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1980 from January 9-11, 2015

On behalf of the Institute and the Alumni Association of IIT Kanpur, the Director had cordially invited the alumni and their family members of the Class-of-1980 to visit your Alma Mater for the 35th Year Reunion which was scheduled from January 9-11, 2015. Nearly 35 alumni of the batch from all walks of life responded to the invitation and bearing all odds of weather arrived in the campus for the reunion. On January 09, 2015 the attendees gathered in the Outreach Auditorium for a formal Welcome ceremony. Prof. Indranil Manna, the Director, IIT Kanpur, on the behalf of the Institute extended a very warm welcome to the alumni.

(vi) 40th Year Reunion of the Class-of-1975 from February 1-3, 2015

The graduates of 1975 visited their alma mater on February 1-3, 2015 for their 40th Year Reunion. The alumni were seen celebrating the meetings with their friends and batchmates, going around the campus on the bicycles or walking, clicking pictures, having bulla sessions, playing phatta, tea and lunch before the formal Inauguration and welcome by the Deans and Secretary, Alumni Association. During the inaugural session, Mr. Shashank Narain, the batch coordinator joined Prof. K. S. Venkatesh, Dr. Prabhat Munshi, and Prof. Rajiv Gupta in lighting the lamp. Around 47 alumni from all walks of life attended, most of them with their families.

(vii) Pioneer Batch Golden Jubilee Reunion March 12-15, 2015

The Golden Jubilee Reunion of the alumni class of 60 was organized at IIT Kanpur from March 12 to 15, 2015. About 19 batch-mates from far and near had gathered in the campus, most of them with their spouses. They shared their memories with nostalgia with their batchmates and students, staff and present faculty members of the Institute. This was IITK's first batch.

2. Distinguished Alumnus Awards

Presentation ceremony

The presentation ceremony to honor the awardees of the year 2013-14 was held on November 2-3, 2014 in the Main Auditorium. The DAAs were:

Prof. Jayadev Misra (BT/EE/69) Professor and Schlumberger Centennial Chair in Computer Science, University of Texas at Austin for his outstanding contributions in the field on Computer Science and Engineering.

Prof. Dipankar Das Sarma (MSc5/PHY/77) Executive Director, Ahmedabad Induction Alloys The Distinguished Alumnus Award is being conferred upon Prof. Dipankar Das Sarma for his outstanding contributions for Academic Excellence in understanding the structure and properties of condensed matter employing synchrotron radiations.

Prof. Vijay Kumar (BT/ME/83) UPS Foundation Professor Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics and Computer and Information Science, Member of the GRASP Laboratory, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Pennsylvania for his outstanding contributions in the field of Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics.

3. Life Membership Drive for the Classes-of-2015

Alumni Association, IIT Kanpur has expanded by adding more than 1200 new members into its database during this year. The AA office had kept in touch with the graduating batch through emails and posters, informing them about the procedure and benefits of becoming a Life Member. Memorabilia such as Bags, Coffee Mugs, Departmental Group photographs of students and faculty members along with a photoframe were gifted to all new members who joined the Association.

In addition to this, AA has been regularly requesting all unregistered members to register themselves on the website. Registered alumni were provided with login user-id, password for the web portal.

4. Facilities for Alumni visiting their alma mater

Alumni Association has worked with the Institute and has obtained permission to provide vehicle passes to alumni regularly visiting the Institute. The AA office coordinates with the Visitors' Hostel, the official Guest House of the Institute in booking accommodations during the alumni's visits to their alma mater.

5. Chapter Incentives

The Alumni Association Board, in its 5th meeting held on October 14, 2014, has approved to allocate Rs. 200/- per person attending chapter event up to a max of Rs. 20,000/- to be given as an incentive for a chapter to get activated. Kindly avail this incentive and plan to organize activities of your chapters. Later you can provide the utilization certificate.

6. IITK Alumni Association Chapter Activities

Chapter activities give alumni an opportunity to reconnect, network, and get inspired from the accomplishments of fellow alumni. It is heartening to know that alumni engagement with the society for various activities like Social causes, Entrepreneurship, Mentorship, etc. will not only bond alumni but also brings immense satisfaction. At the same time, participants get to enjoy great food, games and music. The following chapters had their meeting.

IIT Kanpur, Alumni Association, Outer Delhi Chapter

The Outer Delhi Chapter organized Diwali Chaat Party on Sunday, November 9, 2014 at Noida Management Association, Institutional Area, Sector 62, NOIDA. There was Networking, Self Introduction of Alumni and their Family members, Party Games and Chaat Party. Around 150 persons attended.

IIT Kanpur, Alumni Association, Bangalore Chapter

A Mega family event of IITK AA Bangalore Chapter Exite '14 was organized on November 8, 2014 at ITC Infotech, Bangalore. More than 100 alumni from 1969 to 2014 batches attended the meet, many with their family members. Prof. Anurag Kumar (BT/EE/77) Director, IISc, Prof. Prabhat Munshi (BT/ME/77), DORA, Prof. Kripa Shanker (MT/ME/72), Prof. Sarvesh Chandra

(MT/PHD/CE/74/80), Prof. S. Sadagopan (former Prof. IME), Prof. Ashok Misra (BT/EE/68) were some of the academicians who attended the function.

There were Cultural programs, Games & entertainment for kids (Several funny and exciting events for the children were organized like, Clown Performance, Face Painting, Balloon Shooting and Balloon Modelling will fill the air with laughter) Networking, Professional program, Stalls, Snacks, Dinner etc. Saumya Shanker (BT/MME/95) well known band group DWI, played live at EXCITE '14 for the IIT Kanpur Alumni.

The Bangalore Chapter hosted its first hackathon ever! 10 teams created awesome apps such as Auto sharing App, real time Customer support, LAN Music playing, Vote4 Change etc.

3 teams were selected for finals on 8th November at ITC Infotech Park! CoreDev - Ratan Shah, Mebelkart - Rahul Agrawal and team, LAMP - Lokesh Jangid. Thanks to Knowlarity and indiaIncubator for sponsoring prizes worth Rs.75,000! Bal Krishn Birla (BT/CSE/95) and Bipin Parua (BT/CSE/99) were the Judges of Hackathon the event.

7. Photography Competition

The IITK Alumni Association (IITKAA) hosted the First Photography Exhibition and Competition on March 20-22 at the Outreach Centre, IIT-Kanpur. The Director of IIT Kanpur, Prof. Indranil Manna inaugurated the event at the outreach building (hall-of-fame) at 3:00 PM on 20th March, 2015.

The Alumni Association has invited entries from alumni, institute's faculties, staffs and students to participate in the Competition and have an enormous response. The modern photographs collected as competition entries were also displayed at the exhibition.

IITKAA received 248 entries for the competition including Students-167, Alumnus-66, Faculty-3, and Staff-12. These photographs depicted not only the beautiful life on campus and the essence of the IITK experience, but also covered other significant developments on the campus.

The entries for the competition have been segregated according to the five themes — Academic, Functions, Flora, Hostel and Institute. The competition entries were judged by Prof. Kripa Shanker (among the Senior most faculty), Dr. Koumudi Patil (faculty with design, also involved in the History project) and Shri Prabhat Singh (Senior Editor, Amar Ujala).

Awards were provided to the winners and there were ties and triplets at various positions, the entries were consolidated to get the rankings – in all 14 different individuals shared 19 prizes worth over 1.2 L among themselves.

8. Women Alumni Convention

This convention was the first of its kind among all the IITs and is an annual event of the Association hosting at different cities across the country. The women alumni convention was held on April 11, 2015 in the Institute. Around 40 alumnae attended the convention.

9. Save Avantika Fund

Contributing to "Save Avantika d/o Mr. Anup Kacker (BT/CHE/1974)" fund to assist Mr. Anup for the medical treatment of his daughter Avantika. Alumni Association is committed to help her (Rs one lac) through its CARE Fund but that was not enough, hence a call was made to alumni and a sum of Rs 5 lacs was raised.

Avantika has been on a treatment protocol of one injection per month for the last five years. She has been stable with no new relapses. However, she has now been advised by her neurologists- both in USA and India- that she should discontinue this treatment as she is at high risk of getting PML- a virus which affects brain and for which there is no cure and has led to death in some cases. Further, probability of increase in relapses is also there. The new drug being recommended has still not been introduced in India but is available in Europe and USA. Any treatment of MS is extremely costly. Currently she takes TYSABRI injection once a month since her return from USA which costs Rs 79000/ per injection. Some financial support is provided by the Pharma Company considering the number of years she has been on TYSABRI. Family has been managing her treatment costs through own resources. The new drug is expected to cost nearly Rs 40 Lakhs for the recommended treatment protocol. It has few side effects and it is to be given only twice every year. The family intends to start this treatment in May 2015

10. New Initiatives

Two initiatives that AA has launched: (1) CARE Fund to provide financial assistance to alumni and community members in their hour of need and (2) HOPE Fund to support community service projects. Due to the support of few generous alumni and responsible fiscal management on the part of the AA Board, AA was able to create two corpuses of Rs. 25 Lakhs each to support these initiatives.

CARE Fund: Community & Alumni Relief in Emergency (CARE) Fund -- the purpose of the CARE Fund is to provide financial assistance to alumni, students, current and retired faculty and staff, and community members around IITK who are in distress due to medical condition, accident, devastation caused by natural disasters, or other unfortunate circumstances.

HOPE Fund: Helping Other People Excel (HOPE) Fund -- The purpose of this Fund is to support community service projects/activities that benefit society in general and communities surrounding IITK in particular. Projects/organizations where IITK students and alumni are involved will be given priority.

AA has already provided assistance to an IITK student who needed prosthetic leg, gave stipend to four Prayas volunteers to teach at Opportunity School for one year, supported FM Radio at IITK to increase awareness of health and hygiene to children, workers and community members. Of course there is need to do more. Our goal is to increase the corpuses to Rs. 50 Lakhs each.

11. Google Mail Account

IITKAA is pleased to inform that we have upgraded the online alumni email experience of a general registered alumnus by providing a Permanent email id - username@iitkalumni.org

To become a part of the global IITK Alumni Network, IITKAA facilitates the use of new e-mail addresses, which works similar to Gmail. It also proudly conveys the message that the USER is an Alumnus of the prestigious IIT Kanpur institute.

Recently, total registered user Google accounts are above 18,500 which include approximately 90% ACTIVE USERS.

IITK Alumni Association (IITKAA), importantly collaborated with the Google so that username@iitkalumni.org is recognized as a valid Gmail address. Google will not only provide email-ids but whole lot of other services for free and there will be no limitation to the number of alumni. The facility also provides Apps such as Drive, Mobile, Talk/Hangouts, 2-step verification and also additional Google services (such as Google+).

12. Card swipe machine

A card swipe is installed in AA office to accept the subscription, reunions contributions, donations, etc.

13. Flexing It (A Marketplace for Skills)

For meeting the growing need for flexible short-term paid assignments for our alumni and retired faculty, Alumni Association through its Delhi Office has recently partnered with Flexing It™. Flexing It™ is a South Delhi based firm that operates the domain name www.flexingit.com, an online, curated marketplace that connects professionals and organizations for projects, consulting assignments and other short-term, part-time and flexible work structures using a proprietary matching algorithm.

Alumni Association has made special arrangements with Flexing It™ so that alumni-run companies looking for talent on a short-term basis get charged lower fees, and alumni/retired faculty who wish to offer their talent as a professional/consultant register for FREE.

14. Sale of AA Merchandize Through Campusmall

Launch of the IIT Kanpur's Official merchandise e-store, can be access the same by clicking on the link www.iitk.campusmall.in

Memories of the good ol days is now a finger click away. The e-store is live and stocked with Hoodies, Ts, Cap's, Mugs, etc. New products will be added from time to time. You can pay by credit/debit card, net banking or cash on delivery. Merchandise can also be customized for your batch events or reunions by directly contacting CampusMall at info@campusmall.in

Alumni committee's initiative will be widely received among the alumni community.

CampusMall is an exclusive e-commerce portal for premiere schools and colleges to set up dedicated merchandise e-stores for the alumni community.

15. E-magazine, Voices and Alumni Newsletter

Alumni Association is happy to share the latest issues of alumni e-magazine Voices and Alumni Newsletter. They can be viewed at

http://www.iitkalumni.org/News_Letter_File/Newsletter_2014_III/index.html and

<http://www.iitkalumni.org/EMagazine/8.pdf> on the Alumni Association Website

The Foundation Day celebrations of our alma mater, DAA awards, students news, photography and other announcements are covered in the newsletter.

Some highlights of the magazine are conversation with Bharat Ratna CNR Rao, entrepreneurial ventures of alumni: The Porter.in and Passion Connect.in and beautiful photographs by alumnus Rakesh Bhasin.