

Connections

IIT Gandhinagar



Connections is the quarterly newsletter for friends of IIT Gandhinagar

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Institute News

Five New Members Join IIT Gandhinagar Board



Dr Raj



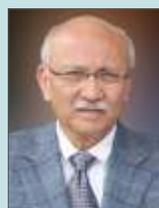
Prof. Sukhatme



Prof. Prasad



Prof. Phatak



Shri Nanavati

Dr Baldev Raj has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT Gandhinagar. Dr Raj is currently President of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, the International Institute of Welding and is the President Research at PSG Institutions, Coimbatore. He is recipient of numerous awards and honours, including the Padma Shri (2007); the Indian Nuclear Society Lifetime Achievement Award (2004); and the 1st Dr Homi J. Bhabha Centenary Year Award (2009).

Four other members to join the board are: **Prof. S. P. Sukhatme**, former Director, IIT Bombay & former Chairman, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board; **Prof. Surendra Prasad**, former Director, IIT Delhi; **Prof.**

Deepak B. Phatak, Subrao M. Nilekani Chair Professor, IIT Bombay; and **Shri Kamal Nanavati**, President-Strategic Development M/s. Reliance Industries Limited.

IIT Gandhinagar expresses its gratitude to three retiring board members: Chairman **Dr R. A. Mashelkar**, FRS, CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow; **Shri Suresh Neotia**, Chairman Emeritus, Ambuja Cements; **Shri Malvinder Mohan Singh**, Group Chairman, Religare & Fortis Healthcare Ltd; **Shri Deepak Puri**, Chairman & Managing Director, Moser Baer India Ltd; **Shri Ashok Thakor**, Special Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India

The group discussed the core values and culture of the Institute, improving research excellence and output and mentoring support for young faculty and leadership personnel. External members included **Prof. Pratim Biswas**, **Prof. Nitesh Chawla**, **Prof. Sam Mannan**, **Prof. Abhijit Mukherjee**, **Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi**, **Prof. S. P. Sukhatme**, and **Prof. Satish Tripathi**.

Leadership Conclave



The third Leadership Conclave was held on December 18, 2012. Issues discussed included national leadership in the next five years in selected areas, bold initiatives using donor funds, and possible trajectories for IITGN faculty members and staff development. External participants included **Dr Hasmukh Adhia**, **Prof. Pratim Biswas**, **Prof. Nitesh Chawla**, **Shri Salil Dave**, **Prof. Sam Mannan**, **Shri Kamal Nanavati**, **Prof. Akshai Runchal**, **Shri Kushal Chand Sacheti**, **Shri Maheshwar Sahu**, **Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi**, **Shri Piyush Shah**, **Prof. S. P. Sukhatme**, **Prof. Nitish V. Thakor**, and **Prof. Satish K. Tripathi**.

BoG Approves New Programmes & Centers

At the BoG meeting on December 3, 2012, the Board approved the establishment of two-year M. Sc. programmes in Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics, and a B. Tech. programme in Civil Engineering. The Board also approved the creation of four Centres on Safety; Design and Innovation; Biomedical Engineering; and

Archeological Sciences. In addition, the Board gave administrative approval and financial sanctions for construction of hostels, residential and academic buildings in Phase 1A of the permanent campus.

Academic Advisory Council

The second Academic Advisory Council Meeting was held on December 17, 2012.

Support for the Institute



Shri Ukabhai Solanki has joined the IIT Gandhinagar Benefactor Advisory Committee. An electrical engineer by training, Shri Solanki president and CEO of Big Saver Foods, Inc., and a member of the Board of Directors of First Choice Bank. He is recipient of Progressive Grocer's 2001 "Grocer of the Year" Award and Ernst & Young's 2002 "Entrepreneur of the Year" award for greater Los Angeles. Shri Solanki's philanthropic contributions touch many educational causes in India and the United States. He is founding president of the Indian Council for the Advancement of Education in India and he endowed the Yadunandan Center for India Studies at California State University in Long Beach.

Professional Awards



Prof. Abhijit Mishra received the MAHE Award for the best paper presented by a scientist/academic faculty at the International Conference on Design of Biomaterials held at IISc Bangalore, December 9-11, 2012.



Prof. Uttama Lahiri has been awarded the Dr C. V. Raman Young Teachers' Excellence Award in Engineering and Technology for 2012. Prof. Lahiri also received the Best Speaker Award from BIOFEST 2012 in Hyderabad, December 12-13, 2012.

Sponsored Projects

- ▲ Ethanol Autothermal Reforming: Design Optimization through Experimental and Modeling Studies sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology. Principal Investigator: Prof. Atul Bhargav, Mechanical Engineering.
- ▲ A Novel System-Identification-Based Approach for Understanding the Deformability of DNA sponsored by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. Principal Investigator: Prof. Harish P. M., Mechanical Engineering.
- ▲ Effects of device geometries and design rules on the performance and reliability of advanced MOS devices with high-K gate dielectrics and metal gates sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology. Principal Investigator: Prof. Nihar Mohapatra, Electrical Engineering.

Consultancy Projects

- ▲ Analysis of Slopes at Ghatkopar for Satra Property Developers Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai. Principal Investigator: Prof. Ajanta Sachan, Civil Engineering.

Professional Activities

- ▲ Prof. Murali Damodaran has been selected to the Editorial Committee of PARENG2013, the 3rd International Conference on Parallel, Distributed, Grid and Cloud Computing for Engineering to be held in Pécs, Hungary, March 25-27, 2013.
- ▲ Prof. Rita Kothari was on the Economist-Crossword Award jury for Indian fiction in English translation at NCPA, Mumbai on October 17, 2012.
- ▲ Prof. S. P. Mehrotra attended the World Resources Forum - 2012, as a nominee of the Indian National Academy of Engineers, held in Beijing, China, from October 21-23, 2012.

New Faculty

The following faculty joined IITGN during the last quarter of 2012:

Name	Designation	Discipline	Ph. D./Last Degree
Abhijit Mukherjee	Professor	Civil Engineering	IIT Kharagpur, 1988
Amy S. Desantis	Visiting Asst. Professor	Social Sciences	Northwestern University, IL, 2009
Arnab Sarkar	Visiting Professor	Chemical & Electrical Engineering	Catholic University of America, 1973
Babji Srinivasan	Assistant Professor	Chemical & Electrical Engineering	Texas Tech University, 2011
Barun Majumder	Asst. Research Professor	Physics	University of Calcutta, 2008 (ABD)
Hamida Banu Chopra	Visiting Faculty	Humanities	Jamia Aligarh University, 1971 (Adeeb Kamil)
Indrajit Ghosh	Adjunct Professor	Civil Engineering	University of Surrey, UK, 1967 (M.Sc.)
Jyoti Mukhopadhyay	Visiting Professor	Materials Science & Engineering	IIT Bombay, 1982
Kabeer Jasuja	Assistant Professor	Chemical Engineering	Kansas State University, 2011
Krishna P. Miyapuram	Assistant Professor	Computer Science & Engineering and Humanities	University of Cambridge, U. K., 2008
Luigi Bruno	Visiting Asst. Professor	Mechanical Engineering	University of Pisa, Italy, 2002
Monique Becker	Visiting Professor	Computer Science & Engineering	Paris VI University, 1976
Nithin V. George	Assistant Professor	Electrical Engineering	IIT Bhubaneswar, 2012
Pierre Becker	Visiting Professor	Physics	Jointly from ENS & SUNY Buffalo, 1973
Prakash K. Paranjape	Visiting Professor	Chemical Engineering	IIT Bombay, 1990
Raghu Echempati	Visiting Professor	Mechanical Engineering	IIT Kharagpur, 1976
Raj P. Chhabra	Visiting Professor	Chemical Engineering	Monash University, 1980
Subhash Deodhar	Visiting Professor	Chemical Engineering	Syracuse University, 1975
Sudipta Sarkar	Assistant Professor	Physics	University of Pune, IUCAA, 2009
Vinod Stokes	Visiting Professor	Computer Science & Engineering and Social Sciences	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1988

Scholars-In-Residence

Name	Affiliation
Rajmohan Gandhi	Research Professor, Center for South Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Joy Mitra	Practice leader at Wm. Mercer and PricewaterhouseCoopers, and head international educational services.
Rengarajan Srinivasan	Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Saskatchewan.
Ranadhir Mitra	Taught in interdisciplinary education at Univ. of Pittsburgh, Univ. of California, and IIM, Kolkata.

Distinguished Visitors



Shri Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro visited IITGN on December 4, 2012. Shri Premji addressed the students on entrepreneurship and success and handed out the 2012 Excellence Awards for staff to Shri Pijush Majumdar (Assistant Registrar), Shri Sanjeev Kumar Pandey (Junior Accounts Officer), Shri Ankur K. Navdiwala (Junior Lab Assistant) and Shri Bhikabhai Patel (Junior Lab Attendant).



Shri Majumdar Shri Pandey Shri Navdiwala Shri Patel

New IITs Librarians Meet

IIT Gandhinagar hosted the first meeting of the new IIT Librarians Representatives during October 29-31, 2012 with the aim of strengthening resource sharing. The meeting was organized by Dr T. S. Kumbhar and Ms Panna Chaudhary.

International Conference on Safety



Dr Mannan

Nearly 300 researchers, educators, safety officials, engineers, safety advocates, policy makers and consultants participated in an International Conference on Safety at IIT Gandhinagar on October 12-13, 2012. The interdisciplinary conference attracted participants throughout India, as well as the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Keynote speakers included Dr Anil Kakodar, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission of India; Shri S. B. Mathur, Directorate General, Factory Advice Service & Labour Institute (DGFASLI), and Dr M. Sam Mannan, Director, Process Safety Center, Texas A&M University, USA. The core team of conference organizers comprised

of Prof. Chinmay Ghoroi, Prof. Achal Mehra, Akshay Jain, Sanjay Saroj, and Rajat Inderiya.

Conclave on Automotive Technology

Amalthea, the annual technical summit founded in 2010, organized its third annual event on October 13-14, 2012, on Designing, Manufacturing, and Entrepreneurship & Innovation. It was inaugurated by Shri Maheshwar Sahu, Principal Secretary, Industry and Mines, IITGN Director Prof. Sudhir K. Jain and ACMA Director Shri Vinnie Mehta. Renowned automobile designer Shri Dilip Chhabria, Shri Tom Chackalackal (Ford India, Manufacturing), Shri Nitin Nair (Siemens Automation), and Shri Joachim Nell (Head, Continental Tech Center India) spoke at the conclave. The event was organized by Harsh Gupta, Anshul Agrawal, and Shreyans Nahar.

Young Researchers Conclave (YRC)

35 young and talented researchers of Indian origin from around the world participated in the second Young Researchers Conclave (YRC) at IIT Gandhinagar on December 27-29, 2012. The conclave included two days of discussions on different aspects of academic life in India, particularly at IITGN. The Conclave was organized by Shri Sourindra Choudhuri (graduate student, Princeton), Shri Vikas Trivedi (graduate student, Caltech) Prof. Srinivas Reddy, and Prof. Harish P. M., and was partly sponsored by iNDEXTb of the Government of Gujarat.

Short Courses/Workshops/Panels

- ▲ A short course on **Seismic Design of Reinforced Concrete Buildings**, November 26-30, 2012. Resource persons included Prof. Sudhir K. Jain, Prof. Durgesh C. Rai, Prof. Greg MacRae, Prof. Dhiman Basu, and Prof. Amit Prashant. It was attended by 102 professionals, students, and faculty from various parts of the country and was organized by Ms Kiran Rangwani.
- ▲ A short course on **Computational Methods in Engineering Using MATLAB**, December 20-22, 2012. Resource persons included Prof. Nitin Padhiyar, and Prof. Shivakumar Jolad. 107 post graduate students and faculty members from engineering colleges, research scientists, and industrial

practitioners from various engineering disciplines attended the event.

- ▲ A short course on **Building a Microscope** by Shri Vikas Trivedi from Caltech, December 30, 2012.
- ▲ An **International Workshop on Process Safety Management**, October 14-15, 2012. Prof. M. Sam Mannan, Regents Professor and Director, Process Safety Center, Texas A&M University, USA; Shri Jitendra C. Patel, Fellow of American Society of Safety Engineers, USA, and Dr Rajagopalan Srinivasan, National University of Singapore conducted the workshop. The workshop, attended by 65 participants globally, was coordinated by Prof. Chinmay Ghoroi and Prof. Achal Mehra.
- ▲ A two-day workshop on **Imagining India**, October 27-28, 2012, was organized by Prof. Rita Kothari and two students Monica Yadav and Shrankhla Narya.
- ▲ A workshop on **Engineering Education With a Focus on Humanities and Social Sciences**, November 3, 2012.
- ▲ A workshop on **Cognitive Science Programme** at IIT Gandhinagar, December 1, 2012.
- ▲ A brainstorming session on **Passive Cooling**, Rainwater Harvesting and Sewage Treatment, November 21, 2012, was organized by Prof. Sudhanshu Sharma.

Contribute to IITGN

Donations both big and small help support our innovative and exciting programs. Even small contributions (say Rs 1,000) add up and serve to motivate our supporters. All donations are 100% tax deductible in India and in the USA.

Donors outside the United States must mail draft/cheque payable to "IIT Gandhinagar Endowment Account" to: Assistant Registrar (External Relations) IIT Gandhinagar VGEC Campus, Chandkheda Ahmedabad - 382424, India Tel: +91-79-2397-2574 Fax: +91-79-2397-2586 Email: donate@iitgn.ac.in Web: <http://www.iitgn.ac.in/donate.htm>

Donors in the United States may send checks payable to "IIT Gandhinagar Foundation" to: IIT Gandhinagar Foundation 450 Melville Avenue Palo Alto, CA 94301, USA

Donors in the USA can also contribute online <http://www.iitgn.org/donate>

Engage with IITGN

Sign up for announcements about public IITGN Events, such as workshops, seminars, public lectures, cultural programs, etc. by sending your name to events@iitgn.ac.in. To sign up for IITGN newsletters and reports send email to connections@iitgn.ac.in.

Student and Staff Activities

IITGN Annual Picnic, 2012



More than 65 IITGN members and their families participated in the annual picnic organized at a nearby resort on November 4, 2012. The organizing team included Prof. Pratyush Dayal, Prof. Tannistha Samanta, and Shri Darshan Patel.

Staff Training & Educational Programme (STEP)

A training programme on Purchase Procedures and Conduct Rules & Leave Rules was conducted on October 6, 2012 by Assistant Registrars Shri Pijush Majumdar and Shri Ram Babu Bhagat at IITGN. A session on email & telephone etiquette was conducted by Ms Shruti Shah on December 15, 2012.

Student Publications and Research

- ▲ **Abhijith Rajiv**, a B. Tech. final year student, presented a paper at the 3rd Asian Conference on Mechanics of Functional Materials and Structures, New Delhi, from December 5-8, 2012.
- ▲ **Akshay Jain, Prateek Nyati** and **Nakul Nuwal** gave a presentation on **UL-IITGN Kitchen Fire Safety System** at the International Conference on Safety' 2012 on October 12-13, 2012.

- ▲ **Vivek Popat**, a M. Tech Chemical Engineering student, presented a paper and **Hemant Gite**, a M. Tech Chemical Engineering student, presented a poster at **Chemference 2012** organized jointly by IIT Bombay and ICT Mumbai from December 10-11, 2012.
- ▲ **Kalpesh Joshi**, Research Scholar, presented a paper at the international conference on **Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Europe 2012**, Berlin, Germany from October 14-17, 2012.
- ▲ **S. Chandrasekaran**, a Ph. D. student, presented a paper at the **IEEE International Conference on Power Electronics, Drives and Energy Systems 2012 (PEDES 2012)**, CPRI, Bengaluru, from December 16-19, 2012.
- ▲ **Shashank Agarwal**, 3rd year, Mechanical Engineering student, was co-author of the paper **Behaviour of Thin Walled Cylinders under Pulse Loading: An Experimental and Numerical investigation** presented at 57th Congress of Indian Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, in Pune, December 16-20, 2012.
- ▲ **Sumitava Mukherjee** presented papers at the Annual Conference of Society for Judgment and Decision Making (SJDM) at Hilton Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, November 18, 2013; and at the Annual Conference of the National Academy of Psychology (NAOP), Christ University, Bangalore, December 10-12, 2012.
- ▲ **Pratap D. Bade, Susmitha P. Kotu, Anurag S. Rathore** published a paper,

Optimization of a refolding step for a therapeutic fusion protein in the quality by design (QbD) paradigm, in Journal of Separation Science.

- ▲ **Susmitha P. Kotu**, final year undergraduate in Chemical Engineering presented a poster at a conference on **Exploiting current research for harnessing the field of Life Sciences**, Hyderabad, December 12-13, 2012 organized by University of Minnesota and Bright Int'l Bio-Conference.

Intra-College Cultural Festival



Jashn'12, the second intra-college cultural festival was organized from October 25-28, 2012. The fun events and competitions such as Screw'em, Jack of all trades, photography and videography competition saw enthusiastic participation. The core organizing team comprised of **Ankit Suchanti, Nitai Bajaj, Mohit Bajaj, Ronak Khandelwal** and **Eepsit Tiwari**.

Life Skills Series

A two-day workshop on **Personality Development** was conducted by **Ms Rashmi Datta** of Dialog Services for first year B. Tech. students on October 20-21, 2012.

Sports News

48th Inter-IIT Aquatic Meet 2012-13

Parth Sane Vishwas defended his 2011-12 50m Butterfly event title and won a gold medal. He also won silver medals in 100m back stroke and 100m free style, and a bronze medal in 50m free style. **Animesh Kumawat** won silver medals in 400m free style and 1500m free style, and bronze medals in 200m free style and 200m back stroke. The IIT Gandhinagar team secured 4th position among 13 participating IITs.

48th Inter IIT Sports Meet 2012

Shivani Rani won gold medal in Discus Throw (Women). Event with a new Inter



IIT Sports Meet Record of 26.49m. She also won a gold medal in Shot Put. **Umesh Singh** won a Silver medal in Javeline Throw with the performance of 45.95m. IITGN secured 9th Ranking in General Championship Tally for Men's and 11th Ranking for Women's.

Girls Basketball Team Wins Championship

The Girls Basketball team won the championship trophy at Concours' 12 tournament on November 4, 2012, at DAIICT, Gandhinagar.

Men's Basketball Team Runner Up

The IITGN Basketball Men's team won the runner up title at the district Championship on November 7, 2012 with a notable performance by top scorer **Suresh Choudhari**. The IITGN Men's Basketball Team is ranked 1st at the College Level and 2nd at Senior Level in the district of Ahmedabad.