Alma Communiqué
Alumni Newsletter (Jul. 2021)

> **Glory of the past,**
> **through the eyes of the future!**

Institute Updates

Om Prakash Aggarwal Medal and Bimla Aggarwal Medal

Aridaman and Jagdish Nath Endowment Scholarship

TEAM AVERERA

1. Sh. Rakesh Aggarwal, a graduate of Electrical Engineering from the batch of 1978 from Australia, has generously contributed for instituting two Endowment Medals with cash prizes in honor of his parents. The first one is the 'Om Prakash Aggarwal Medal' with a cash prize of amount Rs. 15,000/- for a graduating student of B.Tech. Electrical Engineering and another is the 'Bimla Aggarwal Medal' with a cash prize of amount Rs. 15,000/- for a graduating student of B.Tech. Civil Engineering. Both the medals with cash prizes are to be given to the selected students in the Convocation to be held every year based on merit-cum-means criteria. This scheme shall be implemented from the current academic session 2021-2022.

2. Sh. Harsh Nath, a graduate of Chemical Engineering from the batch of 1972 from Canada, has generously contributed for instituting an endowment scholarship, namely 'ARIDAMAN and JAGDISH NATH ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP' from the next academic session 2022-2023. This Scholarship shall be awarded to a female student of the B.Tech. first-year program of any of the disciplines in the Institute based on merit-cum-means criteria, with a scholarship amount of Rs. 3,000/- per month for a period of 10 months in an academic year. This Scholarship shall continue till the fourth year of the B.Tech. Program of the selected student with the specified terms and conditions.

3. The Team AVERERA of the Institute is a group of automotive enthusiasts who are the developers of India's most energy-efficient car. Team AVERERA secured the first position at the Shell Eco-marathon Global League 2021 season among 235 teams from 50 nations. Team AVERERA also won the Virtual Technical Inspection, which was among the competitions conducted throughout the year under the hood of the Global League. Other accomplishments include success in Autonomous Programming and Virtual Off-Track awards for Vehicle Design, Engineering Simulation Practices, and Driver Safety competitions. The accomplishments advanced them to the first position in the Virtual League Table.

Connect back with your Alma Mater

Alumni can now connect with their fellow batchmates by registering themselves on the official alumni portal created by the office of Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs). It will keep the alumni updated about the various developments in the Institute.

Link to the portal - **https://alumni-reg.iitbhu.ac.in/**

Infrastructure Updates

- The construction of the Student Activity Center and Dhanrajgiri Hostel - II shall be completed by October '21.
- The construction work of the Faculty Apartments (Blocks A and B) shall be completed by November '21.
- The construction for Morvi - II Hostel, Guest House extension, and Faculty Apartments (Blocks C and D) in the Institute has started.
- The Student Activity Center will consist of three (G+2) floors. The ground floor will have a badminton hall (4 courts), 2 squash courts, 1 gym, 2 offices, and 2 locker rooms. The first floor will have 2 taekwondo rings, 2 boxing rings, 1 carrom, 1 chess and 2 locker rooms. The second floor will have 2 TT tables for faculty and 3 for students, along with 1 hall, 1 yoga hall, and 2 locker rooms.
- Dhanrajgiri Hostel - II has 403 rooms stretched across S+7 floors.
- Morvi – II Hostel will comprise of 576 rooms stretched across S+10 floors, with three dining halls, lifts, and 12 common rooms: 2 large and 10 small ones.
- The Guest House Block will have 44 rooms on G+4 floors with 8 suites, 2 lifts, a dining hall, reception hall, a waiting hall, and a visitor's lounge.
- The Faculty Apartments of blocks A and B consist of S+8 floors and 3 BHK flats, whereas the Apartments of blocks C and D shall have S+10 floors with 3 BHK flats and would be near Vishwakarma hostel.


Morvi - II Hostel

Guest House Extension

Central Facilities

Main Library

The Institute library offers access to a Digital Library to facilitate smooth functioning during the online semester. It provides the research scholars and faculty members a Remote Access Facility to access online and digital resources from outside the campus. The Digital Library has a collection of 15,000+ electronic journals and 2,500+ electronic books and databases in science, engineering, and technology. The library has a seating capacity of more than 600 and has also created the Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) database of Institute researcher's profile, Institutional Repository and supports research activities by providing access to research support tools.
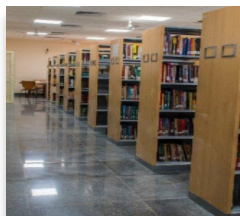
Centre for Computing and Information Services

Centre for Computing and Information Services (CCIS) offers high-end computational servers, web servers, network services, and a robust platform for various academic and research activities. The Centre also manages licensed software, email services, and in-house software development for the Institute. CCIS is a growing unit, and projects are underway for developing it into a facility poised horizontally to meet the scientific and research infrastructure demands.

Internship Season

The month of July marked the beginning of the internship season with pre-placement talks and tests. Week 1 has seen over 29 companies visit the campus, with roles being offered for 31 different job profiles. These include Amazon, American Express, Cisco, DE Shaw, Google, HUL, ITC, JP Morgan Chase, Microsoft, Oracle, P&G, Uber, Walmart, Wells Fargo etc., with the highest package of Rs. 2 lakh per month. Notwithstanding the pandemic, the tremendous turnout of opportunities depicts the continuous efforts made by the Training and Placement Cell. Despite the challenging times, the enthusiasm is worth applauding.

Innovation @ IIT (BHU)

Cisco thingQbator

Cisco thingQbator hosted a webinar on 'Entrepreneurship & Emotional Wellness' and conducted a 4-week Market Launch Bootcamp with a Workshop on 'Stack Selection'. A 6-week thingQbator Internship program was initiated. An Open House Project Track will continue till 31 August, 2021.

Multi Player Yoga Gameplay

MPYG has been launched under the Cisco thingQbator Cohort-4 program. Its audio-visual features demonstrate the correct way to practice yoga. The MVP was launched for beta-testing on International Yoga Day. The platform has been built with mentorship and funding from NASSCOM Foundation, Cisco ThingQbator, and technical support from the NCL-IIT BHU incubation centre.

YogaHelp

A team from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering has developed a technology called 'YogaHelp,' which will assist people in learning the correct way of doing *Surya Namaskar* without the help of an instructor. 'YogaHelp' takes advantage of the smartphone sensor to recognize the 12-link steps of *Surya Namaskar* along with their accuracy level. The technology, with full features and cloud support, will be available for Android and iOS mobile phone users in October 2021.

Media Section

Multiplayer Yoga Gameplay

Development of nickel free steel

**E-Cell** conducted two sessions under the 'Ask Me Anything' (AMA) initiative on 11th and 18th June. The AMA sessions were conducted with Mr. Akash Verma, founder of Aagman, and Mr. Shashwat Agarwal, founder of HappyMinds as the guest speakers. A webinar, 'Hacking your LinkedIn growth as an Entrepreneur' by Ms. Vedika Bhaia, founder of The Fourth Square, was organized on 25th June. Another session covering the basics of Cloud Computing for shifting a startup's database to cloud was conducted with Mr. Pratyush Choudhury on 26th June.
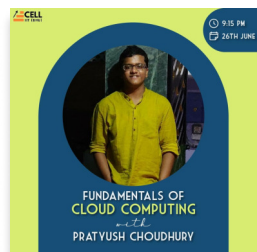
Student Counselling Services organized Yoga Week, on the occasion of International Yoga Day, with seven sessions and instructors from Govardhan School of Yoga and Sri Sri School of Yoga. SCS also compiled and published 'Internship Diaries' to guide the students on cracking on-campus internships and research internships. 'ChitChat with Seniors' concluded after the successful conduction of 42 sessions and webinars on 'Learning Financial Market through Gamification' and 'Mastering Dynamic Programming for Top Tech Interviews' were conducted.
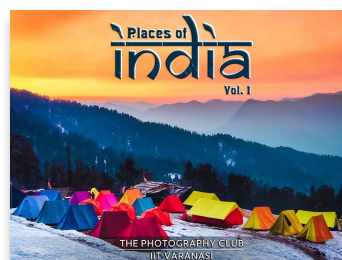
The **Film and Media Council** continued with the 'Mental Health Podcast' by releasing its second episode. A special podcast marking the pride month was also released in collaboration with 'Swikriti'. The Photography Club released the first post of their series 'Places of India' and also posted a photo story on the International Yoga Day. The Design Club hosted several workshops on grain and isometric illustrations. Collaborations like those between the Cine and the Western Music Club have led to several new ventures.

Under the **Games and Sports Council**, the Chess Club has been participating in the Quarantine Chess Tour (QCT), wherein they stood 3rd in Qualifier 3. The club has also engaged in one-on-one member matches with the Chess Club BGR. It has also started streaming chess-related content on its youtube channel.

In the **Social Service Council**, students of Social Projects Club took part in the Enactus Global Social Innovative Summit 2021 where they learned about the optimal ways of social problem-solving. Study material and art and craft videos were shared with the children of *bastis* and they were assigned homework at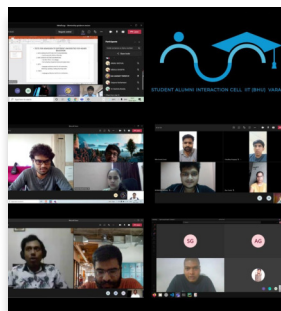 Kashi Utkarsh, along with the volunteers further planning to contact children appearing for Navodaya entrance via phone calls to get updates on their preparation. At Sahyog Club, regular calls were made with the students and Navodaya material was shared. Yoga day was celebrated with the students.

Student Alumni Interaction Cell

SAIC continued with the Mentorship Program and organized Career Guidance Sessions on Core and Research. The Cell organized branch-specific discussions for 12 departments inviting alumni involved in the field of core and research. A session for software development is scheduled for the upcoming weeks. The Alumni Visiting Faculty program, which boasts of renowned alumni in different industries teaching full-credit courses to students as visiting faculty, is also being organized. The program has been coordinated successfully for over 3 years now, giving the students corporate exposure. Four different courses: Data and Digital Economy, Media Environment, Quality Management and Business Strategy, and Finance and Economics for Engineers, are being taught during the odd semester of 2021-22. This year, over 300 students have registered for these courses.

Alumni Batch and Branch Ambassadors

ABBA organized the third session of the ABBA Chaupaal series where Mr. Akhil Swami (EEE '73) and Mr. Vivek Gupta (MEC '80) talked about their college days, career, achievements, ambitions and interacted with the students and other alumni.

Sh. Arvind Gupta (ECE '92)

He has been named a member of the advisory council by the Union Commerce Ministry for the Open Network For Digital Commerce project. He holds a Masters in Computer Science and an MBA from the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. He was the member of the research team that developed the first web browser Mosaic and is an active member of NASSCOM, TiE, Founder Member of iSPiRT and the Head and Co-Founder of Digital India Foundation, a policy think tank focusing in areas like digital inclusion, smart cities etc.

Dr. Shweta Singh (CHE '06)

She was awarded the Environmental Division Early Career Award by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). She is currently an Assistant Professor at Purdue University, USA. Her research focuses on advancing systems methodologies and computational tools for Life Cycle Analysis, Input-Output based LCA and creating cloud-based computational tools for sustainability assessment. Application of these tools include design creation for enabling circular economy, evaluating impact of adopting renewable energy, climate change, etc.

Inspiring Alumni
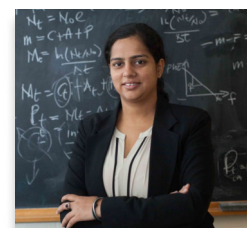
Sh. Anil K. Chopra (CIV '60)

A story that started in the Northwest Frontier Province, which found its way to the ghats of Banaras and has now established its roots in California; having witnessed the horrors of partition, is still being zealous to break new grounds: this is the tale of Sh. Anil K. Chopra.

Sh. Anil K. Chopra was born on 18th February, 1941 in the city of Peshawar, current-day Pakistan. Both his parents were educated - his father, Sh. Kasturi Lal Chopra, worked in the All-India Radio, now known as Akashvani, and his mother,

Smt. Sushila Malhotra, a homemaker. With hazy memories of Independence and the shift of home from Pakistan to India, he spent his childhood in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

He credits his consistency to his mother, who from early on in his life inspired him to push himself into a better version. He could have finished intermediate studies at 14 but repeated tenth grade for a chance to grow more mature. He ranked thirteenth in the high school examinations in Uttar Pradesh and ninth in the intermediate one. One of the lessons by his mother - to try to do the best in everything he undertook became the guiding principle in his life.

With a B.Sc. degree in his hand, he became one of the four people to be selected nationwide for a job in Standard Vacuum Oil Company. Since the company did not really utilize the knowledge he had gained through his years in BENCO, he decided to shift jobs and start a fresh chapter.

His subsequent step in education came after his second job which was in Kaiser Engineers. There, some of his fellow engineers had gone to graduate schools for higher education in the States. This motivated him to apply to universities there in late 1960.

Having saved just enough to travel to the States, the financial constraints he faced had limited his choices. Despite that, he applied to universities like MIT, the University of Illinois, and UC Berkeley. The University that came through with a financial offer was UC Berkeley. This is where he began his journey of an M.S. in Civil Engineering.

To read more about his journey, click here

The Days of Banaras

Banaras, in all its majestic glory, lets you carry itself wherever you go. You might leave Banaras, but it stays with you. With 'The Days of Banaras', quiz yourself on the city so dear to you and allow yourself moments of nostalgia!

Remember - *those books for the all-nighters, food for the starved, the market that often led to nights at ghat?*

Or *the place that bridged the gap between your homes, the city where you are never alone?*

Instructions

- Open the link by clicking 'here' or the collage
- Start typing!
- **Solve, Smile, Share!**

To reminisce with the quiz, click here.

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