IIT Bombay organized a Research Scholars’ Confluence from October 19-20, 2008, as part of its Golden Jubilee celebrations. The confluence was presided over by Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, IIT Bombay, and the inaugural address delivered by Prof. M.M. Sharma, former Director, UDCT. The aim of this confluence was to recognize the contributions and achievements of the research scholars over the decades. The confluence showcased the contribution of IIT Bombay towards creating and augmenting the human resource pool for carrying out R&D in academia, government-funded research labs., and in corporate research endeavors to an invited audience of senior professionals from R&D organizations which utilize our Ph. Ds. Speaking on the occasion Prof. A.Q. Contractor said, “This confluence will not only provide an opportunity to research scholars on campus to interact with research scholars from the past decades and special invitees and enhance their motivation but also seek to alter the perception of IIT Bombay from being considered primarily as an undergraduate teaching institution to an institution focused on research and development.”

Prof. S. Biswas, Dean (AP), gave a brief presentation on “Research at IIT Bombay Today”. Under the topic Nostalgia & Inspiration, eminent alumni shared their experience at IITB and talked about their subsequent careers. In the afternoon session, under the topic Industry Perspective, industry heads and IITB alumni spoke on the importance of research in the present scenario. Prof. K.P. Madhavan gave a brief presentation on “Evolution of the Ph.D. Programme at IIT Bombay”. This was followed by a panel discussion on Road Map for the Future, chaired by Prof. S.P. Sukhatme.
AVENUES. 08 at IIT Bombay

Shailesh J. Mehta School of Management, IIT Bombay, organized its annual International Business Festival AVENUES. 08 on October 18 & 19, 2008, as a Golden Jubilee event. The thrust of the festival was on the role of managers in tapping India’s potential and celebrating the spirit of entrepreneurship of new India. The theme of the event, “Realizing Aspirations”, was an attempt to portray how Indians are aspiring to raise the bar in their respective fields to achieve prosperity to themselves and to the nation.

Some of the luminaries who participated in AVENUES. 08 were Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, Investor and Partner, RARE Enterprises; Dr. Swati Piramal, Director, Nicholas Piramal Life Sciences; Dr. Shivanthu Pillai, CEO and MD, Brahmos Aerospace & Chief Controller, Research & Development, DRDO; and Shri A N Roy, DGP, Maharashtra Police. The festival featured a distinguished lecture series, management- and strategy-based competitions, workshops and several other events for business and undergraduate students all over India and abroad. The distinguished lecture series Alankar was the flagship event of the festival. With illustrious leaders and legends from different walks of life on a common platform, Alankar became a unique melting pot of ideas, values, experiences, success stories, failures, struggles, joys, un友好的 terrains, grit, inspiration, leadership, and, above all, a tremendous learning opportunity for all. AVENUES.08 also featured a unique creativity-based competition, ‘imagine it! India!’, to encourage creative ideas. In line with its vision of ‘realizing aspirations’, AVENUES.08 organized a unique energy-based business plan competition aimed at discussing the topic of energy security for the country, which has opened up a vast window of opportunities to the budding entrepreneurs of the country.

Navonnesh, an International Entrepreneurship Convention, was held as part of AVENUES.08. With its plethora of events, the convention inspired and encouraged both the budding and aspiring entrepreneurs to think beyond starting an enterprise - to transform it into a truly global venture. Bauzi, a business challenge, provided an opportunity to students to step into the roles of entrepreneurs and venture capitalists and experience the challenges akin to the real world through simulation of the negotiation of a VC funding. Abubhav, a panel discussion, provided a platform for the audience to personally experience the charisma of successful entrepreneurs and interact with them and learn about their experiences.

AVENUES.08 was an immensely successful International Business Festival which had participation from countries across the globe. This year too, the event brought in a new flavour and a new theme, capturing the pulse and mood of the nation.

Bharat Forge Signs LETTER OF INTENT with IIT Bombay

Bharat Forge, the flagship company of the USD 2.4 billion Kalyani Group and a critical supplier to the automotive and capital goods industry, signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) for starting an M.Tech. programme for its employees.

The LOI aims at fostering collaboration between IITB and Bharat Forge to promote academic and research interactions. The two-year full-time M.Tech. (Materials, Manufacturing and Modelling) programme will be specially designed as per the BF requirement, with a view to developing the research and development capabilities of its available human resource.

The proposed M.Tech. programme is trans-disciplinary in nature and would be first of its kind in the Institute. The first batch will commence in July 2009. While in the first year of the programme employees of BF will be deputed to IITB for classroom training on full-time basis, in the second year the employees would do their project, jointly at BF and IITB.

MoU with the Tsinghua University, China

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between IIT Bombay and the Tsinghua University, China, on October 9, 2008, for Academic Collaboration in Engineering Research and Education.
Awards and Distinctions

*Prof. Papanasamurthy Sunthar gets DuPont Young Professor Grant 2008

Prof. Papanasamurthy Sunthar, Chemical Engineering, receiving the award

Prof. Papanasamurthy Sunthar, Asstt. Professor of Chemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, was recognized by DuPont – as one of the 17 young professors from universities in the United States, China, Spain and India – with the annual DuPont Young Professor Grant for original research, on October 3, 2008. This innovative grant program is designed to provide assistance to young research faculty in areas of interest to the DuPont's long-term business. Prof. Sunthar was one of only four faculty members to be selected for this grant outside USA, with one from Spain and two from China.

Prof. Sunthar received a grant for US$25000 a year for three years for his work on “Microfluidic Drug Encapsulation in Vesicles”. His areas of research include the study “Viscoelastic Liquid Drops” aiming to model drop dynamics through a combination of molecular simulations and continuum methods.

The DuPont Young Professors Program provides grants for original research in chemistry, biofuels research, miniaturization applications for electronics and medicine, structure and function of proteins, nanocomposites, studies in earth science and climate change. The programme, which began in 1967, is designed to provide unrestricted start-up assistance to promising young and untutored research faculty working in areas of interest to the long-term business interests of DuPont. The professors are nominated by a member of the DuPont technical staff who agrees to serve as the liaison between the company and the faculty member. The DuPont Fellows Forum, which includes the company's top scientists, selects the award winners each year. Each grant recipient is invited to present a seminar on his or her work to the DuPont research community.

*Prof. Deepankar Choudhury receives Excellent Paper Award from ASCE

Prof. Deepankar Choudhury receiving the Excellent Paper Award for Junior Individual

Prof. Deepankar Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, received Excellent Paper Award for Junior Individuals (under 10 years category) 2008 for his research paper titled "Seismic bearing capacity of shallow strip footings embedded in slope" by Deepankar Choudhury and K S. Subba Rao, 2006, appeared in the International Journal of Geomechanics, ASCE, Vol 6, No. 3, pp. 176-184. The paper for this international award is selected from among the ASCE Journal papers published during last three to four block years and the award is given by the International Association for Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics (IACMAG). USA.

The award was presented on October 4, 2008, at Goa, India, during IACMAG International Conference.


*Prof. Malhar Arvind Kulkarni, Electrical Engineering Department, has been elected to the Regulating Council of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune.

*Prof. D Chandrashekhar, Department of Earth Sciences, has been elected to the Editorial Board of Journal of Advanced Researches on Geology, published by the Institute of Advanced Scientific Research, Irvine, California, USA.

*Prof. M. C. Deo, Department of Civil Engineering, has been appointed as Editor-in-Chief of a new journal titled: "International Journal of Ocean and Climate Systems" to be published by Multi-Science Publishing Co. Ltd., located in Sussex, UK.

Publications / Presentations


Prof. Kulkarni presented a paper entitled "The concept of Viamana in Shikshaa and Pratishakhya in the 3-day National Seminar on Shiksha and Pratishakhya organised by Vaidika Sanshodhan Mandal, Pune, September 18-20, 2008. The paper has been accepted for publication.


Prof. Raja Mohanty, Industrial Design Centre, presented a paper titled "Tribal, Traditional and Urban Art Practices: Contextuality and Transcendence" at the International Scientific Conference for the Centennial of the Faculty of Fine Arts, held from October 19 to 22, 2008, at Cairo, Egypt. The paper attempts to understand how diverse art practices and practitioners in India respond to the creative chaos of the global age and evolve a visual language that is relevant to the times.


Prof. Deepankar Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, attended the 12th International Conference of International Association for Computer Methods and Advances in GeoMechanics (IACMAG) during October 1-6, 2008, at Goa, India, where he also co-chaired a session on Topic 11: "Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics" on October 4, 2008.


Prof. A.K. Dikshit, CESE was invited by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, New Delhi, to deliver a lecture on "Waste Management: Scientific Soundness Prior to Implementation" in the workshop entitled Environmental Friendly Strategy for Waste Management in India by Development and Adaption of Sustainable Applications on October 21, 2008, at ShangriLa Hotel, New Delhi. The event was jointly sponsored by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Research Council of Norway, and the SINTF. The workshop had participation from all important research organizations from India and Norway.

Prof. Truppi Mishra, SIMSON, attended the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Economic Sciences 2008 held from August 20 to 23, 2008, at Lindau, Germany.


Seminars/ Colloquia/ Lecture

Dr. Pankriti Tayalia, Harvard University, USA, delivered a seminar on "Space-temporal Control for In-vivo Cell Migration and Cancer Vaccine Studies via 2D and 3D Microfabrication" on October 24, 2008.

Prof. J.H. Driver, St. Etienne, France, delivered a seminar on "Boundary Mobilities during Recovery Binary Minerals" on October 31, 2008.

Dr. V. B. R. Murthy, A.P. State Biodiversity Board, delivered a seminar on "Carbon Finance and Biological Diversity Act" on October 22, 2008.


Faculty News

Prof. Haripriya Gundimeda, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, gave an expert presentation in a seminar with membership-secrataries of State Biodiversity Boards at the Ministry of Environment and Forests in New Delhi on August 27, 2008. He was also invited to give a lecture on Environmental Accounting for Development Projects: A Few Case Studies - for the In-service IAS Officers at AMITY, Noida, on September 25, 2006. He also delivered two lectures in the one-week training programme on "Environmental Economics and Accounting" for IFS Officers, sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on
September 12, 2008, at ASCI, Hyderabad.

Prof. Malhar Arvind Kulkarni, Department of Electrical Engineering, delivered lectures on “Sharada Script” at the Department of Sanskrit, University of Mumbai, on September 4, 11 and 18, 2008, and “Sharada Script” at the Sathye College, Vile Parle, Mumbai, on September 10, 2008. He also delivered a lecture series at the Department of Sanskrit, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, on “Asiddhavat in Panini” from September 12 to 15, 2008.

Prof. Kulkarni delivered a lecture on “Ancient Indian Theories of Homonymy and Synonymy” in the National Seminar on Lexicography at the Department of Sanskrit, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, from September 16 to 17, 2008.

Prof. Kulkarni participated as an expert in a one-day Sanskrit Sammelana organised at M.S. Sangha, Mulund, on September 21, 2008.

Prof. Deepankar Choudhury, Department of Civil Engineering, gave an invited oral presentation on October 4, 2008, at the Young Researchers Forum of the 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (14WCEE), Beijing, China, on the topic “Analytical Solutions for Design of Waterfront Retaining Structures Subjected to Earthquake and Tsunami”. His was the only lecture that represented India and its earthquake research at the World Youth Forum.

Prof. R. O. Dusane, Head, Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, was invited to join the Indian Delegation to participate in the Joint Canada-India Nanotechnology/Nanobiotechnology Workshop held in Canada under the Partnership Development Activity (PDA) initiated by DST (GITA) and the Canadian Government. Workshops were held in Waterloo, Montreal, and Edmonton from August 5 to 11, 2008, with the aim of fostering and developing future joint R&D project proposals under the Canada-India Nanotechnology S&T Agreement. The members of both Indian and Canadian sides delivered seminars showcasing the developments in different areas related to nanotechnology/nanobiotechnology in both the countries. The various areas like health-related aspects, sensors and energy in which nanotechnology could make an impact were dealt with at length during these workshops in order to initiate bilateral collaborations among researchers from both the countries.


Prof. M. D. Atrey, Department of Mechanical Engineering, was invited to give a talk on “Joule-Thomson Cryocoolers for Thermal Imaging” in the National Seminar on Emerging Technologies of Thermal Imaging during September 5-6, 2008, at Sathyaabama University, Chennai. The talk covered the developmental work carried out in the Refrigeration & Cryogenic Laboratory at IIT Bombay.

News from Alumni

Fourth Annual Basketball Match

The fourth annual basketball match between IITB team and the Alumni team was played on October 18, 2008. This year the Alumni team had on its side a couple of IITM alumni. Anticipating a stiff fight with the formidable IITB basketball team, which had won the gold medal at the inter-IIT Sports meet in December last, the Alumni team spared no effort to include strong men like Ashwin Doshi, Captain Louis George, Samir Gulve (Coach) in its team. The game was thoroughly enjoyable.

Participants in action during the match

The Alumni team played valiantly. But with all its verve and grit and with players like Captain George, the mainstay and the top scorer on its side, it could not prevail over the mighty IITB team, which, of course, had to sweat it out for the win.

Screening of “Asterix & Obelix-Mission Cleopatra”

IIT Bombay, in collaboration with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been conducting a Basic French Communication Course since 2005. As part of this, a French movie (with English subtitles) Asterix & Obelix – Mission Cleopatra was screened at the RC, Saxena Auditorium on November 1, 2008.
Appointments

Dr. (Ms.) Stuti Mukhopadhyay, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, from September 23, 2008, for a period of one year.

Dr. Rajakishore Nath, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, from October 7, 2008, for a period of one year.

Dr. Azizuddin Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, from October 7, 2008, for a period of one year.

Dr. Shashikant Kelkar, Adjunct Professor, Shallesh J. Mehta School of Management, from September 1, 2008, for a period of one year.

Dr. Eric Wambach, Assistant Professor (Contract), Department of Mathematics, from September 2, 2008, for a period of one year.

Prof. Raghav Varma, Head of the Department of Physics, from September 22, 2008, for a period of three years.

Dr. (Ms.) Mrinmoyi Kulkarni, Assistant Professor (contract), Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, from October 7, 2008, for a period of two years.

Prof. S. L. Bapat, Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, from August 14, 2008.

Dr. S. S. Yadav, Senior Sports Officer, PTI (Gr.I), Students Gymkhana, from October 23, 2008.

Dr. B. B. Appaji, Senior Sports Officer, Students Gymkhana, from October 23, 2008.

Dr. S. N. Jha, Senior Sports Officer, Students Gymkhana, from October 23, 2008.
## Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Coordinator/ Department</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Finite Element Method and Applications in Civil Engineering</td>
<td>Prof. T.I. Eidho/ Prof. Y.M. Desai Civil Enng.</td>
<td>November 17 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Computer Aided Engineering (CAE)</td>
<td>Prof. A. Guha/ Prof. A. Sharma Mech. Enng.</td>
<td>November 17 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Certificate Programme in Management</td>
<td>Prof. S.N. RanSIMSoM</td>
<td>November 17 – 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Modeling, analysis and Optimization of Industrial Processes</td>
<td>Prof. A. Mehra/ Prof. A. K. Suresh Chem. Enng.</td>
<td>November 26 – 29</td>
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## Retirements

On 31.10.2008

- Shri Ram N. Patil, Aerospace Engineering
- Shri Ravindra Rajendra Deshpande, Electrical Engineering Department
- Shri Ganesh Mahadeo Joshi, IDC
- Shri Ravindranath G. Kabare, Civil Engineering Department
- Shri Sachin Kumar D. Soni, Accounts Section
- Shri Balkrishna N. Kulkarni, Security Section
in the Wilderness

IIT-Bombay campus is richly stacked with flora and fauna, and among its most special holdings are its wild flowers. The campus boasts of more than 60 of the 240 species listed in a book on common Indian wild flowers. Interestingly, some 30-35 species are found in the Hillside Area alone, making this a 'hot-spot' for these flora. Most bloom during the monsoon. Pictured here is the purple variety of the Supobia, an ephemeral flower borne on frail grass systems that grows best in open areas around hills. Gregarious by habit: patches of Supobia can speckle the slopes of our Temple Hill with a vivid purple during August - September.

Courtesy: Prof. Rohit Manchanda
Location: Hill Side, IIT Campus