DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumnus:

Greetings from IIT Bombay. I trust that you and your family are doing well.

I want to take this opportunity to share the exciting news that IIT Bombay has jumped 18 places from its position in 2022, and has been ranked first in India and 47th globally in Engineering and Technology domain in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for 2023. Please look for a longer write-up on the rankings in the newsletter. I must gratefully acknowledge all of your tremendous support that we have received over the years across various strategic initiatives, that have helped us grow and achieve excellence across several facets of teaching, research, and translation,

and create the impact that has helped us leapfrog by 18 places (since 2022).

The Institute hosted the 2023 edition of FAN-DAM in India in Chennai between March 31 – April 2, 2023. Organized after 4 years in India, this event brought several of our accomplished alumni serving in the industry and academia together with IITB senior administration and faculty, to deliberate on several strategic matters related to both Institute growth as well as research forays.

Moving on to the several other important events and activities that took place at the Institute:
The Institute celebrated its Foundation Day on March 10. Please look for a detailed write-up on the celebrations and the various awards that were given to our faculty and alumni members in the News section of the newsletter. Please join me in congratulating the awardees that were felicitated during the event. The senior administration from IIT Bombay led by Director Prof. Subhasis Chaudhari visited Australia (Sydney and Melbourne) and Singapore to connect with our alumni settled there. It is always a pleasure to reconnect with our alumni who are settled overseas. While distance may separate us, at our core, we are all IITBians and will always be. It is a bond that unites us forever. Please look for a detailed Special Report and images on our Alumni Connect event in the newsletter.

With great humility and admiration, I would like to spotlight a young woman whom we have profiled this month, Dr. Savitri Gupta who overcame several odds to have the distinction of being the first blind student who graduated from IIT Bombay with a Ph.D. Please look for her extraordinary story filled with trials and tribulations that culminated in her getting her Doctorate and now working in Axis Bank, in the Student Success story section of the newsletter.

Please join me in commending the excellent work done by our IITB professors who continue to bring accolades to themselves and the Institute. Please look for more details under Faculty Accolades in the News section of the newsletter.

We also have all of our other regular articles including Faculty Profile, Chair Professorships, Alumni News, Institute Highlights, Upcoming Events, and more.

Once again, I want to thank you for your consistent support and generosity to your alma mater and trust that you will continue the same in the future, as well. Your spirited involvement has contributed immensely to the Institute's advancement and we are immensely grateful for the same.

We are eager to see you and hope you will come by and visit us on campus soon.

Sincerely,

Prof. Ravindra D. Gudi, Ph.D., FNAE and FIIChE
Dean – Alumni and Corporate Relations
Institute AI & ML Chair Professor

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

IIT Bombay Clinches the Top Spot in India in the QS World University Rankings in Engineering and Technology by Subject for 2023

IIT Bombay's unwavering commitment to excellence in education, research, and innovation has resulted in the Institute cementing its place at the top. The Institute ranked first in India and 47th globally in Engineering and Technology in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject for 2023.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject provides a comprehensive assessment of universities worldwide by recognising the top institutions across 54 specific subject areas. Within a span of one year, IIT Bombay has leapfrogged by 18 places from its earlier ranking in 2022 to 2023.

A total of seven academic programmes from the Institute secured a place in the top 100. The rankings, which were released on March 22, 2023, showcase the Institute's exceptional performance across four of the five broad subject areas including Engineering and Technology, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Management, and Arts and Humanities.

Several programmes in IIT Bombay found their way into the top 100. These include: Minerals and Allied Research in the Department of Earth Sciences, which performed the best by placing 37th; the Electrical & Electronics Engineering programme placed 54th; Computer Science and Information Technology placed 66th, Mechanical, Aeronautical & Manufacturing Engineering was ranked 68th, and Chemical Engineering placed 77th. The Institute also has been placed between 51-100 in Art and Design and Civil and Structural Engineering.

Gathering its data input from a global pool of over 130,000 academics, the QS utilised a set of five metrics to rank universities. These included academic reputation, employer reputation, research citations per paper, H-index (a measure to gauge the productivity and impact of a scholar or scientist's published material), and international research network.

IIT Bombay ranked high on many of these metrics. The Department of Mathematics earned a robust score of 78.6 in academic reputation, whilst IITB's engineering programme in Minerals and Allied Research did it proud by scoring a high 88.1 in employer reputation and 88.8 in citations per paper.

An elated director of the Institute, Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri remarked, "We are indeed delighted that IIT Bombay continues to excel in providing a strong leadership role in engineering education in India. Our efforts shall continue in further improving the standing of the Indian higher education globally. I congratulate all our students, staff, faculty, and alumni for their contributions in achieving this recognition."

CONVERSATION WITH ALUMNI

Mr. Ram Kelkar – Accomplished Corporate Executive and a Dedicated Alumnus

IIT Bombay's Distinguished Alumnus, Mr. Ram Kelkar (B.Tech., Electrical Engineering, 1980), is the Principal and Managing Director, Capital Markets Group at Milliman Financial Risk Management LLC. The Institute is very proud of his incredible career trajectory since he graduated from IIT Bombay. He is also a deeply involved alumnus of the Institute who is also a co-founder and past President of the IIT Bombay Heritage Foundation

(IITBHF) and continues to regularly give back to his alma mater. We are grateful to him for taking the time out of his very busy schedule to talk to the Knowledge Tree – the Dean ACR Newsletter.

Mr. Kelkar, as one of IIT Bombay's most successful alumni, what are some key traits that you imbibed at the Institute that have made you the highly accomplished person you are today?

An IIT Bombay education is never just about learning calculus or computer programming, though that is important. Nor is it just about getting a high CPI, which doesn't hurt either. What I also gained from my IIT education was a range of soft skills, such as the ability to work and compete with extremely talented people, self-confidence, risk-taking, setting high standards, and never be daunted by setbacks. Some of the core aspects and elements of the coursework, such as analytical, quantitative, and computing skills are evergreen and have been critical to my growth. But the soft skills I learnt from IIT Bombay played an equally significant role in my success. The key was to combine the soft skills and the core "hard skills" and continue to adapt, grow, and succeed across a wide range of careers and career transitions.

You're now a mentor to many but who were your mentors/professors who were your guiding light from when you were at the Institute?

Both Prof. S.S.S.P. Rao and Prof. D.M. Dhamdhere introduced us to the field of computing which was just beginning its explosive growth. We worked with Soviet-era computers like the 1970s vintage EC 1030 and the even older Minsk II computer systems, using punch cards. While these may seem archaic in hindsight, the skills we gained back then have lasted a lifetime.

Also, our seniors were mentors and role models too. They inspired us – whether it was during our time together on campus or when we watched them succeed at top schools like Harvard Business School or The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (from where I received my MBA degree).

Do you recall a funny incident/anecdote from your time at the Institute? Something memorable that you can share with us?

One of the funnier incidents on campus happened to me even before I joined IIT Bombay. I went to the campus to check the JEE results that were posted on a bulletin board in the Main Building. This may sound very quaint in today's world of instant electronic information. A few seniors who happened to be standing behind me asked me about my rank, and I naively shared it. The next thing I know, I was being ragged even before joining IIT Bombay! The fact that I shared a last name with a recent Director of the Institute didn't help matters either. Fortunately, the ragging was verbal and light-hearted, and I learnt a lesson to always be vigilant, especially in a new environment.

As one of IITB's most involved alumni, you recently set up a Chair Professorship for Quantitative Finance at the Institute. What are your visions and goals for the same?

The goal of setting up the Chair Professorship for Quantitative Finance was to eventually help create a Centre of Excellence at IIT Bombay in this interdisciplinary field which is at the intersection of finance, statistics, and technology. The quantitative, statistical, and analytical skills that students from IIT Bombay gain from their engineering and technical education can provide a strong foundation for careers in quantitative finance. These fields are important from a national perspective as well since strong, well-developed, and efficient financial markets are critical to helping India continue on its path of rapid economic development.

The Chair Professorship will help make IIT Bombay become a pioneer in the area of quantitative finance, financial engineering, and risk management using financial derivatives. Besides encouraging students to consider careers in finance and complete their coursework in this field, the chair is expected to encourage faculty to conduct research in the area of quantitative finance and initiate efforts toward the dissemination of knowledge among academicians as well as the public at large.

Can you tell us more about your upcoming Shashwat Panda Memorial Lecture at the Institute?

Much of what is taught at IIT Bombay will become obsolete or irrelevant insofar as the specifics of what is taught pedagogically. And yet, students gain some of the most important intellectual skills for a lifetime because education is all about "learning to learn."
The Shashwat Panda Memorial Lecture will be about the skills that matter in the long term, and draw parallels to the many unique and impactful career paths blazed by IIT Bombay alumni. I plan to share insights from seven distinguished alumni of IIT Bombay ranging in graduation years from 1969 to 2008, who have built on their IIT Bombay education to become leaders in a variety of fields. These include technology, public service, government, law, central banking, and taxicab services. I will also share some of the lessons I learnt from my career path as I moved from Silicon Valley to Wall Street, which I built on the skills and knowledge I gained at IIT Bombay.

Are there any tips/advice you'd like to give to the younger generation of students on how to navigate life beyond the Institute?

Keep learning, take risks, be a leader, and never give up even when the path seems daunting.

What can the Institute do to get more alumni involved in their alma mater?

IIT Bombay should build upon and expand the excellent work already being done by the Dean ACR Office and IITBDRF to maintain a constant dialogue and communication with alumni. There is a lot that IIT Bombay can learn from business schools like my other alma mater, the Wharton School, which builds strong Alumni Relations Departments that are staffed with professionals who invest a lot of time and effort in staying in touch with alumni. It's this kind of ongoing and concerted effort that can ensure that alumni feel motivated to "give back" and help the institute in many other ways.

What an incredibly inspiring conversation that was! We would like to thank Mr. Kelkar for not just taking the time to speak with us, but also for his continued efforts and service to his alma mater despite his extremely busy schedule. Once again, thank you, Mr. Kelkar.

FACULTY INTERVIEW

Professor Sumant Rao: An Artist, Dreamer, and a Creator Building a Museum and Archive as a Gateway to IIT Bombay's Rich History and Culture

"Museums have a responsibility to make visible the historical and social connections that shape our lives."

- Lonnie Bunch, Smithsonian Secretary

And it's this very concept – of ensuring that the rich heritage and legacy of his alma mater, IIT Bombay, should be made visible to the world at large – that drives Prof. Sumant Rao today.

Background

Professor Rao led a distinguished and multi-faceted life before he joined IIT Bombay as a faculty member. An alumnus of the Institute himself, he started his academic journey at IIT Bombay as an Aerospace engineer. While his interests made him opt for a typical engineering path after high school, he also nurtured a deeply artistic and creative side within him. When he was a student at IIT Bombay, he became aware of the Industrial Design Centre (IDC) which fuelled his ambitions of wanting to pursue a career in design and animation. He made a dramatic career shift from aerospace to design when he enrolled for a Master's degree at IDC.

After graduation, he, together with two partners, set up Animagic, a company that produces animation films in India. With a desire to create world-class animation in India, Animagic created everything from "graphics, animation, and special effects in commercials, corporate films, feature films, titles for film and television, visualisation and preproduction design for both ads and features, to illustration and design, children's books, educational textbooks."

Prof. Rao was one of the country's top special effects directors and supervised and executed several ad films as well as feature films like Ekalvya and Hey Ram which won the National Award for Best Special Effects in 1999.

Despite the tremendous success he had with Animagic, Prof. Rao yearned to give back what he had learned to the upcoming generation of students. So, he returned to his alma mater – but this time as a professor of animation – where he inspires his students to look for human-interest stories that lie beyond animation software.

Click here for Prof. Rao's interview on DSource about animation.

https://www.dsource.in/course/story-indian-animation/video/sumant-rao

But over the past few years, Prof. Rao has begun working hard on his latest passion in the belief that the contribution that the Institute has made over the years to the country and the world deserves to be celebrated. To that end, Prof. Rao is eager to set up a museum and an archive that can display the Institute's journey – from its inception to where it is today.

The VEMA Experience

Prof. Rao has ample experience for his passion project at IIT Bombay since he has already worked on a similar museum project with VEMA, the Virtual Experiential Museum, on the Ajanta Caves. He designed and executed VEMA at the National Museum, New Delhi. But the image of a museum – filled with dusty old books and artifacts – is far from what Prof. Rao's version of the museum is all about. He says, "Most people imagine a museum of IIT Bombay to be some old equipment, documents, old photographs, biographies, etc. that's on display that they go and observe. But for me, a museum is a living space, which is an integral part of history, living history, and current situations."

With VEMA, the paradigm of what a museum can be has changed drastically as he and his team created a virtual museum that is set in a physical space at the National Museum, New Delhi. He and his team digitized four caves of Ajanta in high resolution where a head-mounted display allows a visitor to get virtually transported to the caves as if they're actually present at those caves physically. He says, "These digital models allow for a bird's eye view where one can fly inside the cave or go to the roof and look down. So you can fly around the entire Ajanta site like a bird. This is something that no tourist physically present in the Ajanta caves can do."

Click here for a film on VEMA that Prof. Rao designed and executed at the National Museum, New Delhi. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A3MN_lJeEGZI9sN9AKIhtcg6JJKR9kFC/view

Building a Museum and an Archive at IIT Bombay – the Idea Takes Shape

While the archiving initiative was originally taken up by legendary IITB professor Sukhatme and Prof. Gaitonde in 2014, during the Institute's Platinum Celebrations, Prof. Rao was asked to look into it and is now its convener. And he is determined to record and archive the many significant events that have occurred at IIT Bombay since it was set up in 1958.

Among his many ideas for the project is an exhibit that will trace the timeline of the Institute from back when the foundation stone was laid to the lush green space we are familiar with. “What we see now was actually a barren grassland with lots of cows grazing around!”

As an alumnus of the Institute himself, he is convinced that the Institute’s alumni would want to trace the growth of their home away from home – their hostels. “We know the lounge, we know the different wings, and we know the different floors. We remember the rooms by who lived in them. We remember the games that we played there. These are a living memory of that physical space.”

He is keen to create a virtual hostel which will be a replica of the hostel spaces where alumni lived in the past. He hopes that alumni will visit their virtual hostel room and post about their memories of that space even as they’re navigating their way through the online model. “And if you have some photographs of that time from the wing, from your wingmates, from your hostel, photographs in the lounge, photographs on the small football field, you can go to that location and upload those photographs. You can record voice messages,” he says passionately.

With the archive, he is keen to trace and archive documents like the overall vision of the Institute written decades ago or the appointment letter of IITB’s first director, etc. He also plans to archive documents that are subjective like a look at campus life, issues the Institute has faced, and the views of professors who have worked here for many years. His team is currently in the process of recording the oral histories of those who were associated with the Institute.

Other records that will be archived include alumni-centric accomplishments and achievements like research papers or B.Tech. projects of distinguished alumni like Mr. Nandan Nilekani and more. Older magazines and photos that trace the history of the Institute, and images like that of a young student who received an award for a play during one of the Institute’s intercollegiate cultural events and who turned out to be none other than the dreaded Gabbar Singh of Sholay, aka, Mr. Amjad Khan himself!

While archiving is an extremely tedious process, Prof. Rao is more than ready to take up the challenge. He says, “Most times it’s difficult to decide what is archivable material and what is not. On the face of it, a document might look very ordinary but may end up having tremendous archival value. So to even decide what needs to be archived is a meticulously slow process.”

From a Dream to Reality

As eager and excited as Prof. Rao is, the going is pretty tough for his pet project. While colleges like MIT, USA, have had a dedicated museum and archive in place for years, his team has been allocated a minimal space within the IIT Bombay library which is already constrained in terms of space. But he is happy that at least a small space has been made available for his passion project. He says, “Once the place is ready, we will have a small conservation lab and some space to store the physical archives.” While he is worried that they will run out of that space quite fast, he reminds himself that since archiving is a slow process, there are still a few years before that happens.

While he understands that the museum and archive at the Institute are not going to get up and running in no time, he is determined to be hopeful and says with a smile, “I know that. But eventually, we will have the space and infrastructure we need, we can get the ball rolling.”

We wish Prof. Rao the very best as he sets about fulfilling what he admits is a daunting task. But if his past successes are anything to go by, he will fulfil his current ambition as well.

For more on Prof. Rao’s IITB Museum and Archive Project, **click on this link here:**
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1PZ9h7F3bdx6kATJwllN3xNJdFsaMKt1g/edit#slide=id.p19

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Dr. Savitri Gupta: Against All Odds - The Inspiring Story of a Doctoral Student's Vision Beyond Sight

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

— Nelson Mandela

Meet Dr. Savitri Gupta.
In a world where most of us take sight and the breathtaking splendour of the world around us for granted, Savitri was born and grew up as a visually challenged young woman. While life was extremely challenging for Savitri, she never gave up hope or allowed her impairment to define her. She courageously persevered and emerged triumphant over every adversity that she faced and successfully graduated with her Ph.D. from the Humanity and Social Sciences Department at IIT Bombay in February 2023.

"I believe in God and in prayer," Savitri says earnestly when asked how she handled all of life's hurdles that were thrown at her. "I knew God would never let me down." This deep faith in the power of God has allowed Savitri to face and triumph over the many trials and tribulations she has faced so far.

Savitri's Childhood

Savitri's life began with tragedy. She was born visually challenged at birth. And if that wasn't enough, at the very tender age of three, Savitri had her second major tryst with tragedy, as both her parents passed away. By the age of four (and after repeated treatments to cure her eyes failed), she was admitted to the Kamla Mehta Blind School in 1988 where she lived and studied till her SSC. Luckily, for her, the school provided her with hostel accommodation and free education.

During her school years, she still had her grandparents who looked in on her but the relentless cycle of tragedy struck again. Her grandparents passed away during her high school years and she was abandoned by her aunt and uncle to fend for herself. During this period she also suffered from major health issues. All this happened close on the heels of her hostel accommodation at the blind school coming to an end after she graduated from her SSC.

While even the strongest human being might have given up, Savitri turned her personal challenges into accomplishments as she stood 1st in her school during her SSC. The cash award she received allowed her to enrol for her HSC at Ruparel College, Mumbai. She then received her BA in Social Work at the Nirmala Niketan School of Social Work, and her Masters in Social Work from the very prestigious Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS), Mumbai. Later, she got a coveted job at TISS – as a coordinator of the M.K. Tata Centre, where she worked for three years.

The IIT Bombay Years

But Savitri's academic journey was far from over.

She was determined to pursue her Ph.D. at IIT Bombay and became the first visually challenged student who was admitted to the doctoral programme at the Institute.

As challenging and, sometimes, lonely, as her doctoral journey at IIT Bombay was she is gratified by the many lessons she learned whilst studying at the Institute.

"IIT Bombay is where I learned all about being a research scholar," she says with gratitude. The commitment to her degree, the tough curriculum and its myriad requirements, her competitive classmates, and working on tough research projects with deadlines – IIT Bombay's ecosystem challenged her and, eventually, toughened her.

IIT Bombay is also where she made many friends and met many mentors who helped her during her tenure at the Institute. She credits her supervisors, Prof. Parthasarathy and Prof. Sarmistha Pattanaik, who helped her navigate her academic journey at IIT Bombay. She recalls with gratitude how Prof. Pattanaik checked in on her continually during the pandemic when she got Covid a couple of times. She is incredibly grateful to Prof. N. Venkataramani and his wife, Kamala Venkataramani, who were her pillars of support during her tenure at IIT Bombay (and continue to be her support system after graduating from the Institute). She is thankful to the HODs and other dignitaries at the Institute who helped her along the way and is grateful that the Institute, on its own, gave her and two other visually challenged students at IIT Bombay the Braille version of a tablet that made her academic student life a lot easier.

Savitri triumphantly graduated with her Ph.D. with her dissertation on the "Vulnerability of Orphans in the Context of Citizenship" and accepted her degree during the Interim Convocation held at the Institute in February 2023. The convocation hall erupted with applause for Savitri as the attendees celebrated her hard-fought and long but triumphant academic journey.

Life After IIT Bombay - Work-Life at Axis Bank and Future Hopes and Dreams

Life came full circle as Savitri returned to the Powai area recently as Prof. Parthasarathy and Mrs. Kamala Venkataramani helped her secure a lease for an apartment in the area. She also accepted a position with the CSR wing of Axis Bank where she is part of the bank's inclusion and diversity project. She made the head office of Axis Bank fully accessible to people with disabilities and will continue to do the same for all the branches of Axis Bank.

When asked what she hopes for her future – Savitri's response comes back fast and furious. As interesting as her job is at Axis Bank, her real passion is to work for the upliftment of the marginalised community in the country. She wants to use her life experiences to bring about tangible change in their lives and work with government agencies and affect policy changes.

She is also honest enough to admit that she is not too averse to making more money. "I get paid only Rs. 50,000/- from Axis Bank," she says. Between rent at Powai (22k per month), medical, and other sundry expenses, there is not much left at the end of the month. "I want to travel and experience the world! I want to go to Israel, I've read a lot about it. And the US and UK."

When asked if she would like to work abroad, pat comes her response. "I would love to!"

In the meantime, she is now enjoying her life not working on the tough doctoral programme anymore and is grateful for the privacy of her own home. She has an active social life that comprises friends who drop in all the time, shayari and singing sessions with them, and dreams of traveling to many different places.

Speaking of her life's journey and the many challenges she has faced to overcome them, she says very simply, "In the end, my life so far taught me a lesson that if we want to achieve anything in life we need to have willpower and confidence in ourselves. Another lesson that I learned was that to be happy and fulfilled in life, one needs to help and support others in need. True success can only be achieved by serving the nation with the knowledge and skills that one possesses. Our wisdom, knowledge, and contribution can live forever even after we die."

What an incredible young woman Savitri Gupta is! With her joie-de-vivre, her never-say-die attitude, her spirited bouts of laughter, and her passion for R.D. Burman's music, Savitri is a true example of what a human being – able or otherwise – can accomplish if they set their minds to it.

We wish her the very best moving forward and hope that others – young and old, abled and differently-abled, men and women – will be inspired by Savitri and her journey. For she truly lives the saying, "When the going gets tough, the tough – like Savitri – get going."

Listen to Savitri singing some of her favourite R.D. Burman songs here:
https://clipchamp.com/watch/CEnfL0eEHoa

SPECIAL REPORT

Alumni Meet: Australia (Sydney, Melbourne) and Singapore

Reminiscing and Reconnecting Over the Past and Reimagining the Future: Alumni Reunion Brings Renewed Energy

IIT Bombay is committed to building and nurturing strong bonds with its alumni, who continue to help their alma mater grow from strength to strength. In the Institute's journey of excellence, its alumni have emerged as the key facilitators and strongest supporters. As part of its endeavour to further strengthen relationships with alumni, IIT Bombay continues to organise regular meet-and-greets for individuals settled in different parts of the world.

This year's series of alumni meets kicked off in Australia (Sydney and Melbourne) and Singapore and was very well attended by IITB alumni. The team from IITB welcomed 35 alumni in Melbourne, 38 in Sydney, and 118 in Singapore. Alumni members ranged across a wide spectrum of batches – from the mid-1960s to the more recent graduates from 2022. While the meets were held at The Park Royal Hotel in Melbourne and Sydney, the legendary Raffles Hotel was the venue in Singapore.

Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director, IIT Bombay shared the vision of IIT Bombay while Prof. Ravi Gudi, Dean ACR, shared the broader roadmap of the Institute in the upcoming years with alumni. The team also highlighted the many critical initiatives currently underway at the Institute which include mentoring students / providing guest lectures, CSR partnerships, collaboration with the IITB research ecosystem, and direct financial contributions. Even as several alumni members were excited at the opportunity to meet in person and interacted and networked with one another, they also reflected on ways they could give back to their alma mater including donating, mentoring, and volunteering at the Institute.

IITB was gratified at how involved alumni from all three cities were and the Q&A sessions in Sydney and Singapore were particularly engaging and enlivening. They also had many questions and queries for their alumni including how to increase IITB's QS rankings, methods to improve collaboration with foreign universities, brainstorming on solutions to the student housing crisis at IITB and how alumni can help, and ways in which the Institute can further engage with its alumni.

While the team had a hectic schedule traveling to two countries and three cities in a short period, the time spent with alumni was truly priceless.

IIT Bombay would like to acknowledge and thank the following alumni for arranging and setting up the meetings in their respective cities.

Melbourne:

- Ms. Sharbani Dhar (M.Des., IDC, 2009)
- Mr. Ravi Jain (B.Tech., Metallurgy, 2003)

Sydney

- Mr. Saurabh Shukla (B.Tech., Chemical Engineering, 1999)
- Mr. Ankush Rehan (B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 2002)

Singapore:

- Mr. Piyush Mehta: (Ph.D., Reliability Engineering, 2007)

AUSTRALIA


SINGAPORE





For more images of the events, please click on the following links:

https://alumni.acr.iitb.ac.in/media_gallery/alumni-meet-melbourne/
https://alumni.acr.iitb.ac.in/media_gallery/alumni-meet-sydney/
https://alumni.acr.iitb.ac.in/media_gallery/alumni-meet-singapore/

DONOR INSTITUTED CHAIR PROFESSORSHIPS

Prof. Suyash P. Awate Appointed the Asha and Keshav Bhide Chair Professor

About the Donor:

Calsoft Private Limited established the Asha and Keshav Bhide Chair Professorship at IIT Bombay to conduct advanced research in Artificial Intelligence, Machine learning, Data Engineering, and Data Science in the Department of Computer Science Engineering.

Dr. Anupam Bhide, an alumnus of the Institute and the CEO of Calsoft, has generously donated to set up the Chair Professorship and is actively engaged with the Institute to support various causes as well.

About the Appointee:

Prof. Suyash P. Awate, Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering.

Professor Suyash P. Awate is currently the Asha and Keshav Bhide Chair Professor at IIT Bombay.

Prof. Awate received the prestigious Dhirubhai Ambani Undergraduate Merit Scholarship which supported his B.E. in Computer Engineering from Mumbai University in 2001. He went on to receive his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Utah in 2006 where he focused on computer vision as well as medical image analysis. Subsequently, he was a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Pennsylvania where he specialised in medical image computing.
Prof. Awate's research focuses on the entire spectrum of quantitative methods in the field of medical image computing and analysis. This field lies at the heart of data science as it involves principles in mathematics and statistics for modelling and inference, high-performance computing techniques for data analysis, and applications in the domains of medical science and medical scanning. His research interests include machine learning, image analysis, and computer vision.

Since joining IIT Bombay, Prof. Awate's core endeavour has been to make IIT Bombay and India visible in the field of medical image computing at the international level. Apart from building and maintaining an active research group, he has designed, developed, and evolved a specialised course on medical image computing.

Prof. Awate's research has won numerous honours and awards at premier publication venues in the field. These include:

- The 2022 Best Paper Award at the IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI) conference for his paper titled "Semi-supervised deep expectation-maximization for low-dose PET-CT"
- The 2020 Magna Cum Laude Award at the ISMRM international conference
- Best Paper Award finalist twice – at the 2019 IEEE ISBI and the 2017 IEEE International Conference on Image Processing
- The Young Scientist Award runner-up twice at the prestigious MICCAI international conference in 2018 and 2009
- Winning the Best Paper Award twice at the MBIA workshop in 2013 and 2012 at the MICCAI international conference
- Presenting the opening paper twice at the IPMI international conference in 2019 and 2015

Prof. Awate is also a member of the editorial boards of several international journals including the premier journal in the field – Elsevier's Medical Image Analysis Journal. He has also been the programme chair of a top-tier

international conference, a keynote speaker at a well-known international workshop, and been a part of organising committees of prestigious national and international conferences and workshops.

Prof. Kameswari Chebrolu Appointed the D. M. Dhamdhere Chair Professor for Excellence in Teaching Methods

About the Donor:

The Prof. D. M. Dhamdhere Chair Professorship is the result of an Institute-led effort spearheaded by some of its alumni as well as Prof. Dhamdere's students. The Chair was established in memory of the late Prof. D. M. Dhamdhere who passed away in 2020. He was an alumnus of the Institute and his teaching and mentorship had a great influence on the students of the CSE Department.

About the Appointee:

Prof. Kameswari Chebrolu, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering

Professor Kameswari Chebrolu is currently the Prof. D. M. Dhamdhere Chair Associate Professor for Excellence in Teaching Methods at IIT Bombay.

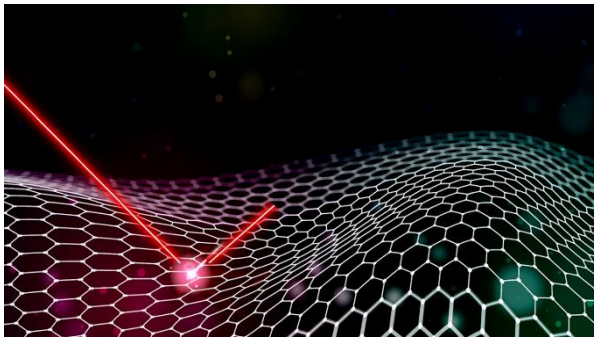
Prof. Chebrolu received her B.E in Electronics and Communications Engineering from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, and then went on to get her M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of California, San Diego.

Prof. Chebrolu's research interests include developing cutting-edge technology for real-

world use and high social impact. She has also worked on projects aimed at providing Internet access to rural villages, enabling voice communication in remote tribal areas, and monitoring the health of railway bridges. Currently, her focus is on developing smart educational technology for classroom use, AI-human-hybrid technology that caters to the information needs of those who are at the bottom of the pyramid and countering fake news on social media.

Prof. Chebrolu has won multiple awards and accolades over the years. She won the IITB Excellence in Teaching Award at the department level in 2022 and the IITB Excellence in Teaching Award at the institute level in 2010. Her teaching methods received an honourable mention in the academic senate meeting at IITK in 2006. Her research paper was selected as one of the Top Three Outstanding Papers out of 1152 papers submitted to Infocom in 2008. Another research paper also received an honourable mention out of 123 papers submitted to Mobisys in 2008.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



Coming Soon: A Tabletop Chiral Attosecond Laser

The following article was originally written for the IIT Bombay website by Ms. Arati Halbe: (https://www.iitb.ac.in/en/research-highlight/coming-soon-tabletop-chiral-attosecond-laser)

The paper was originally published in the **Physical Review Applied Journal**: Generation of circularly-polarised high-harmonics with identical helicity in two-dimensional materials

Researchers use a single-double-frequency pair of laser light to generate circularly polarised attosecond pulses from graphene

When molecules form from many atoms, the atoms can combine in different ways. Two forms of the same molecule can have the same composition but have different arrangements of atoms, giving rise to isomers. Some isomers may have structures that are mirror images of each other. Such molecules are called chiral molecules. Scientists are interested in studying such molecules, for example, penicillin, because one arrangement can be a lifesaver while the other could be fatal!

Researchers shine extremely short pulses of light on molecules to take their videos during the processes of interest so that they can study the structure or formation of the molecule. The pulses are so short that they are measured in attoseconds. An attosecond is a billionth of a billionth of a second. The light needs to be what is called circularly polarised to study chiral molecules. Different arrangements of a chiral molecule respond differently to circularly polarised light, making it possible to distinguish each arrangement. Though polarised attosecond pulses are a great tool for studying chiral molecules, generating such light pulses can be daunting, expensive, and needs bulky apparatus.

A new theoretical study by researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, led by Prof Gopal Dixit, has suggested a scheme that makes it possible to have a compact tabletop source of circularly polarised attosecond laser pulses. Their recipe suggests using a laser source with a single-and-double frequency pair of laser light shone on a solid material, such as graphene, to generate high-frequency short-duration pulses. The design does not pose any restriction on relative intensities of the single-and-double-frequency light. It is robust to any imperfections in the intensity of the light source.

The study published in the journal Physical Review Applied was supported by Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) India.

Light is a transverse wave. Its S-shaped vibrations are perpendicular to the direction it travels; that is, the wave vibrates up and down as it travels. The vibrations could be vertical, horizontal or at any angle in between. When the angle of vibrations rotates clockwise or anticlockwise, as seen when looking into the direction of propagation, the light is called circularly polarised. The light is said to have right or left helicity.

Researchers use a phenomenon called high-harmonics generation to generate pulses a few attoseconds long. An intense laser pulse, called a driving field in this context, when shone on certain materials such as krypton gas, energises the electrons in the krypton atom as they absorb the light. When the electrons return to rest, they emit radiation that contains high harmonics— frequencies that are a few hundred or even thousand times the frequency of the original laser. As the frequency increases multifold, the length of the pulses reduces proportionally. We thus get extremely short pulses, a few attoseconds long.

However, there is a catch. Using a driving field laser pulse with circular polarisation does not ensure circularly polarised attosecond pulses of sufficient intensity. “To study phenomena involving chirality and magnetism, the helicity of light must be controllable. It becomes challenging to generate circularly polarised laser pulses useful to study these phenomena”, explains Prof Dixit. Shining laser light on solid materials such as graphene instead of gases made it possible to obtain more intense pulses of circularly polarised light compared to those generated using gases. Using solids also offers additional control over the polarisation of the emitted light pulses and enables a compact source.

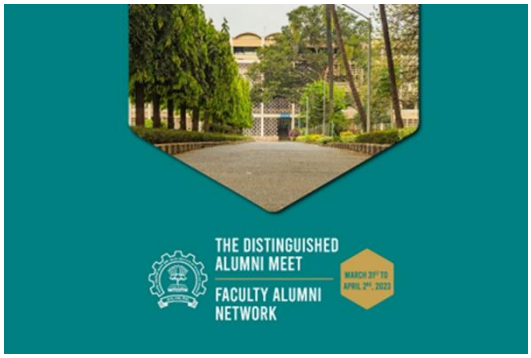
An earlier scheme used a single and double frequency pair with opposite polarisation to generate circularly polarised high-harmonics. This scheme gives light pulses pairs with polarisation identical to the source pulses. The adjacent harmonic frequencies have opposite helicities (one follows the single-frequency helicity while the other follows the double-frequency helicity). But frequencies that are multiples of three times the source frequency are missing. Various schemes, such as varying the intensities of the frequencies in the source laser and introducing additional pulses with different polarisation, did not provide a desirable control over the circular polarisation of the attosecond laser.

The IIT Bombay scheme suggests using laser light with a single-and-double-frequency pair with the same circular polarisation direction. The team has designed a specific scheme that uses single and double-frequency pair laser

sources with no rotational symmetry. All the high harmonics generated using this design have identical helicity, irrespective of the relative intensities of the single and double source frequencies.

The researchers used computer simulations to observe the spectrum obtained by earlier schemes as well as their scheme. They observed that their scheme is robust against variations in the intensity and phase of the driving laser pulses. Their suggested scheme can be extended to other 2-D materials with a hexagonal lattice and other solid materials. The researchers say their work can facilitate "observing chiral light-matter interactions in molecules and solids in their natural time-scale."

INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS



IIT Bombay Hosts Faculty Alumni Network (FAN) – Distinguished Alumni Meet (DAM) 2023 in Chennai

IIT Bombay hosted the Faculty Alumni Network (FAN) – Distinguished Alumni Meet (DAM) 2023 from March 31 – April 2 at Fishermen's Cove, Chennai.

The FAN-DAM event returned to India after a period of four years and assembled several of IITB's accomplished alumni serving in the industry and academia together with senior administration and faculty from IIT Bombay. Together, they deliberated on several strategic matters related to the growth of the Institute as well as research forays.

The FAN meeting witnessed discussions on emerging and relevant areas of research including semiconductors, circular economy , health sciences, and AI/ML amongst others. The DAM saw our distinguished alumni deliberating on critical topics such as faculty value proposition, and the holistic development of students, amongst others that can fuel the Institute's continued development.

Please look for a detailed write-up on the event in our May 2023 newsletter.

Media Delegation From Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Countries Visits IIT Bombay

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, arranged for a delegation comprising 35 journalists/editors from Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries to visit IIT Bombay on March 28, 2023, as part of a familiarisation programme for foreign media. Prof. S. Sudarshan, Deputy Director (Academic and Infrastructural Affairs), IIT Bombay, and Prof. Amit Agrawal, Dean (International Relations) interacted with the delegation. The delegation also visited the IDC School of Design to get a broader perspective of the curriculum taught at the school.

IIT Bombay Celebrates 64th Foundation Day

IIT Bombay celebrated its 64th Foundation Day on March 10, 2023, by honouring the contributions of its faculty members as well as alumni who have left their mark in their chosen fields of profession.

The Foundation Day ceremony started with a welcome address by Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Director, IIT Bombay who highlighted the key milestones achieved by the Institute in the past 64 years. He said, “The strong foundation that IIT Bombay builds among its students helps create an alumni base that provides leadership roles, no matter what career profession they select in their life.”

The Chief Guest of the function Mr. Sajjan Jindal, Chairman, JSW Group of Companies, in his address said, “The future belongs to those who dream big and work tirelessly to achieve their goals. It is important to remember that success is not just about personal achievements but also about making a positive impact on the world around us. IIT Bombay can be the catalyst in the development of our great nation. As an alumnus of IIT Bombay, you have a duty to give back to the institution and the nation that gave you so much. Whether through financial support or by sharing our knowledge and expertise with current students, we can help ensure that the future generations of IIT Bombay graduates continue to be among the best and brightest in the world.”

Next, the event conferred several awards to faculty members of the Institute.

IIT Bombay conferred the Prof. S.C. Sahasrabudhe Lifetime Achievement Award (2022-2023) on Prof. Devang V. Khakhar, Former Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering (2002–04) and Director of IIT Bombay from 2009 – 2019, in recognition of his outstanding contributions as a teacher, researcher, and an administrator. The IIT Bombay Prof. S.C. Sahasrabudhe Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes outstanding individuals whose pioneering spirit and demonstrated inventiveness throughout their careers that have had a tangible societal impact even as they have been inspirational to others.

The Institute also honoured its faculty for their research achievements.

The ‘Prof. S.C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Research in Pure Sciences (2022)’ was conferred on Prof. Samir Maji, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering, for his outstanding contributions in the area of Protein aggregation, Biochemistry, and Biophysics; and Prof. Debabrata Maiti, Department of Chemistry, for his outstanding contributions in the area of Bio-inspired catalysis, Green Synthesis, C-H activation, and Photocatalysis.

The ‘Prof. H.H. Mathur Award for Excellence in Research in Applied Sciences’ was conferred on Prof. V.S. Raja, Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, for his outstanding contributions in the area of Corrosion Mechanisms and Materials Development.

The Institute then recognised select alumni of IIT Bombay, who have excelled in their field of work and made the Institute proud, by conferring them with the Distinguished Alumnus Awards (DAA).

The awardees this year were:

The Young Alumni Achiever Awards (YAAA) are conferred upon alumni who have made outstanding achievements in their chosen field of work and are below 40 years of age.

The awardees for this year's Young Alumni Achiever Awards were:

The Foundation Day festivities were held in the physical presence of the awardees, their family members, Institute functionaries, and invited dignitaries and were transmitted live on IIT Bombay's Official YouTube channel.

IIT Bombay Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for Hostel 19

The Institute celebrated the ground-breaking ceremony of its upcoming hostel (H19) which is being built to house the increasing number of students on campus. The state-of-the-art housing facility will comprise best-in-class amenities including spacious rooms, computer rooms, recreational spaces such as television and music rooms, sit-out areas, a gymnasium, a dining hall, and a cafeteria amongst other provisions.

Revamping ageing hostels and building brand-new, top-quality living spaces for students forms an integral part of IIT Bombay's overall infrastructural upgradation. The Institute wholeheartedly believes that a comfortable, joyous, and thriving living environment enhances the student's educational experience and shapes them into well-rounded individuals.

With the ground-breaking ceremony of Hostel 19, IIT Bombay has taken another critically important step forward in this endeavour.

IIT Bombay Releases Special Issue of Hindi Magazine, Kshitij, on G20

Kshitij – IIT Bombay's in-house Hindi magazine published a special edition on the G20 and it was released by Prof. K.P. Kaliappan, Dean (Strategy), on March 9, 2023. Also present at the occasion were Prof. S.V. Kulkarni, Dean (Administration Affairs), and Mr. Ganesh Bhorkade, the Registrar, IIT Bombay. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Das, Assistant Librarian, Central Library, IIT Bombay, coordinated the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Kaliappan congratulated the editorial board of Kshitij magazine, while Prof. Kulkarni delivered a lecture on the G20 and related activities of the Institute. Dr. Vinod Prasad, Sr. Assistant Registrar and the editor of the Kshitij G20 Special Issue, discussed the G20 theme in detail. The function ended with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Vaishali Bahulkar, Hindi Officer.

IIT Bombay Hosts Workshop on Millets

IIT Bombay and India Tourism Mumbai commemorated the International Year of Millets (2023) by organising a joint workshop on February 28, 2023, at P.C. Saxena Auditorium. Large numbers of students from various Mumbai colleges attended the workshop.

Mr. Jerson Fernandes, Executive Chef at Novotel Mumbai, hosted the session. Mr. D. Venkatesan, Regional Director (West and Central Region), India Tourism, welcomed the attendees and introduced the guest speaker.

Mr. Fernandes spoke about the importance of millets and why they are referred to as a superfood. He also conducted an on-the-spot quiz at the end of the workshop. Students, staff, and faculty from the Institute also took part in the workshop.

IIT Bombay Professors Earn Accolades

IIT Bombay Hosts Award Ceremony for Winners of IITB-Spoken Tutorial Awards 2023

IIT Bombay hosted an award ceremony to honour the best performers of the Spoken Tutorial project on March 4, 2023. Around 140 people received the awards under two broad categories – MASTER (Most Accomplished Spoken Tutorial Educator Resource), and Spoken Tutorial Alumni Resource (STAR). Apart from the awardees, the event was attended by several heads of academic institutions, industry leaders, bureaucrats, and decision-makers.

Spoken Tutorial is a flagship IT literacy program developed at IIT Bombay and was established in 2009 with generous funding from the Ministry of Education (then MHRD) through NMEICT.

Over the past 13-plus years, the project has trained 70+ lakh learners across India and offers more than 90 skill-based IT literacy courses ranging from basic computer skills, programming languages, domain-specific free/libre open-source software, numerical computational tool, etc. Many of these courses are also available in 22 Indian languages as per Schedule VIII of the Indian constitution. Many colleges across India have adopted Spoken Tutorial skill-oriented courses as part of their curriculum.

Using Spoken Tutorials, one can learn various free and open-source software all by themselves. The self-paced, multilingual, features of the project ensure that anybody with a computer and a desire for learning can learn by themselves from any place, at any time, and in a language of their choice.

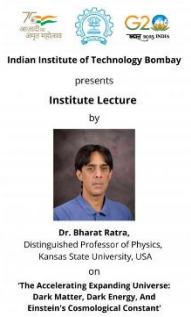
Mr. Yogesh Andlay, co-founder of Nucleus Software, and INSquare was the Chief Guest. He delivered the keynote address on the 'Role of Education in Nation Building.' During his speech, he encouraged all the awardees to contribute to society by becoming leaders in their own right. Ms. Ashima Mittal, IAS (C.E.O. Nashik Zilla Parishad & IIT Bombay Alumnus) was the guest of honour. She was also the recipient of the MASTER award, as she volunteered to promote Spoken Tutorials during her second year of B. Tech. studies at IIT Bombay, back in 2011. She now organises training programmes for health workers in the Nashik district using the Health Spoken Tutorials.

The event also hosted a panel discussion on 'Making India a Talent Powerhouse – The Spoken Tutorial Way.' The panel included representatives from academia and industry and discussed the way forward for upskilling the Indian population.

Speaking about the event, Prof. Kannan Moudgalya, the Principal Investigator of Spoken Tutorials said, "We started Spoken Tutorial with the intention to take high-quality education to India's rural population. We worked tirelessly to build IT literacy modules that would be both low-cost and suitable for self-learning. When these awardees spoke about how Spoken Tutorials helped them in their academic performances and in finding jobs, it was an extremely gratifying experience."

IIT Bombay Celebrates National Science Day

IIT Bombay celebrated National Science Day to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by Sir C.V. Raman for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. As part of this celebration, the Institute organized a lecture on "Bioinspired synthesis of organic molecules" which was delivered by Prof. Debabrata Maiti, Department of Chemistry, on February 28, 2023.



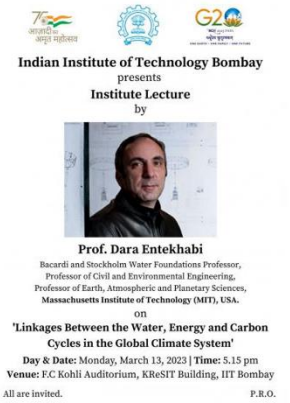
Lecture on "The Accelerating Expanding Universe: Dark Matter, Dark Energy, And Einstein's Cosmological Constant"

Dr. Bharat Ratra, Distinguished Professor of Physics, Kansas State University, USA, delivered an Institute lecture on "The Accelerating Expanding Universe: Dark Matter, Dark Energy, And Einstein's Cosmological Constant" on March 14, 2023.

Dark energy is the leading candidate for the mechanism that is responsible for causing the cosmological expansion to accelerate. Dr. Ratra described the astronomical data which persuades cosmologists that (as yet undetected) dark energy and dark matter are by far the main components of the energy budget of the universe at present. He reviewed how these observations have led to the development of a quantitative "standard" model of cosmology that describes the evolution of the universe from an early epoch of inflation to the complex hierarchy of structure seen today. In what was a non-technical lecture, he also discussed the basic physics, and the history of ideas, on which this model is based.

Dr. Ratra is a physical cosmology theorist investigating dark energy and dark matter that constitutes 95% of the universe's current energy budget. His 1988 discovery, alongside Dr. Jim Peebles of Princeton University, of dynamical dark energy models launched him on a 30+ years quest to evaluate dark energy models using observational data. The implications of Dr. Ratra's research on dark energy are revolutionary within the field of physics.

Dr. Ratra has authored more than 140 scholarly works and has been cited over 20,000 times in the scientific literature.



Lecture on "Linkages Between the Water, Energy and Carbon Cycles in the Global Climate System"

IIT Bombay organised an Institute lecture on Monday, March 13, 2023. The speaker was Prof. Dara Entekhabi, Bacardi and Stockholm Water Foundations Professor, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Professor of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA.

Prof. Entekhabi's topic was the "Linkages Between the Water, Energy, and Carbon Cycles in the Global Climate System." He spoke about how water, energy, and carbon cycles together maintain the climate system and support life on Earth. The cycles are intimately linked together. As a result, perturbations in one can affect the other cycles and how strongly or weakly they are linked determines how modifications of one cycle transfer to another.

Prof. Dara Entekhabi received his B.S. (1983) and M.S. degrees (1985, 1988) in geography from Clark University, Worcester, MA, and his Ph.D. degree (1990) in civil and environmental engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA. He is currently a Professor with joint appointments in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences at MIT. He is the Science Team lead for NASA's Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP) mission that was launched on January 31, 2015. His research includes terrestrial remote sensing, data assimilation, and coupled land–atmosphere systems modelling. Prof. Entekhabi is also a fellow of the AMS, AGU, and IEEE, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE).

ALUMNI NEWS

IITB and SARC Host CEO Connect – Zishaan Hayath, Founder & CEO, Toppr

IIT Bombay and SARC hosted version 3 of their extremely successful CEO Connect with IITB alumnus, Mr. Zishaan Hayath (B.Tech, Civil Engineering, 2005), Founder & CEO, Toppr.

Toppr is India's leading after-school learning platform that Mr. Hayath founded as a way to make learning fun, personalised, and exciting. And Toppr is currently India's most advanced and

comprehensive learning app for classes 5th-12th. Mr. Hayath discussed key learnings from his life as a student of IITB, his professional and personal highs and lows, mantras for success, and more!

CEO Connect brings back IITB alumni who are in CEO positions back to their alma mater for extensive interaction with students. The Institute is committed to helping students connect with these alumni and learn valuable lessons from their personal and professional trajectories.

IITB distinguished alumnus. Mr. Ram Kelkar (B.Tech., Electrical Engineering, 1980), was the guest speaker at the prestigious Shashwat Panda Memorial Lecture.

Mr. Kelkar is the Principal and Managing Director, Capital Markets Group at Milliman Financial Risk Management LLC.

In his lecture, Mr. Kelkar highlighted the critical and relevant skills that are required in building successful careers and drew parallels to the several unique and impactful career paths blazed by IIT Bombay alumni. Mr. Kelkar also shared learnings from his own career experiences as he moved from Silicon Valley to Wall Street and built on the skills and knowledge that he gained at IIT Bombay.

The Institute takes great pride in having Distinguished Alumni such as Mr. Kelkar share his valuable insights with its students and faculty.

Watch Lecture: https://youtu.be/qB6f-ELQivQ

UPCOMING EVENTS

Catalysing the Digital Health Revolution in India: Symposium at the Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH)

IIT Bombay will host a symposium at the Koita Centre for Digital Health (KCDH) called 'Catalysing the Digital Health Revolution in India' in April.

KCDH was established two years ago with the vision to transform healthcare in India by driving research, entrepreneurship, and employment in Digital Health. The Centre has grown from strength to strength and continues to create impact through its comprehensive educational programs and high-yielding collaborative research partnerships with government and private hospitals, top-notch research organisations, and startups.

This event will bring together thought leaders and researchers in Digital Health from the government, academia, and industry and witness a panel discussion on the "Past, present, and future of digital solutions in Indian Healthcare."

Date: April 17, 2023
Time: NA
Venue: IIT Bombay

Inauguration of C-MinDS and AI.Impact Workshop

IIT Bombay will officially inaugurate the Centre for Machine Intelligence & Data Science (C-MInDS) and host the second edition of the AI.Impact Worksop on campus. AI.Impact 2023 will also feature talks and discussions on AI in Engineering, Reinforcement Learning, Deep Learning, and Multi-agent AI.

Date: April 28 and 29, 2023
Time: Day 1: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Day 2: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Venue: VMCC Auditorium, IIT Bombay

Institute Valedictory Function

IIT Bombay will celebrate its annual Institute Valedictory Function (Valfi) in April. As always, the Institute invites an extraordinary and inspiring alumnus to be the Chief Guest for one of its most popular and significant events. This year, IITB alumnus, Mr. Lalit Kanodia (B.Tech., Mechanical Engineering, 1963) and chairman of the Datamatics Group of Companies will grace the occasion as the keynote speaker. The Institute is honoured to hear him speak even as the graduating students will take away many of life's key lessons from his extraordinary professional journey and impactful personal experiences.

Date: April 29, 2023
Time: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Venue: Convocation Hall

Faculty Alumni & Distinguished Alumni Meeting (USA)

The next edition of the Faculty Alumni Network (FAN) and the Distinguished Alumni Meet (DAM) in 2023 will be held in the US at the Northwestern University Campus in Chicago. The event will bring several of our highly accomplished alumni who are in leading positions in academia and industry in the US, together with the senior administration and faculty of IIT Bombay. They will deliberate on several strategic matters related to Institute growth as well as emerging areas of research, to nucleate collaborative programs for mutual impact, and to create opportunities and explore innovative ways to take IIT Bombay to greater heights.

Date: July 7-9, 2023
Venue**:** Northwestern University Campus, Chicago