



Dear members,

We trust that you have been enjoying reading the IITAA newsletters. We endeavor to provide you all the IIT related information at one place.

The IITAA seminar with Prof. Madhu Chakraborty, Dean of Alumni Affairs at IIT Kharagpur and Prof, Beryl Hesketh, Pro Vice Chancellor of Sydney University was a big hit and was fully sold out. You must have seen the media coverage in India Downunder. Thanks to Vijay Badhwar for this excellent coverage.

IITAA president, Davender Jain, recently took time off to visit USA and actively networked with global pan IIT leaders. I am sure this will bring the much needed support and assistance to IITAA in coming years. A regional IIT conference in Sydney in early 2008 is on the cards.

You will be happy to note your committee has worked hard to attract eminent personalities from US and Australia to IITAA's Advisory Board and we take this opportunity to welcome all the board members to IITAA family.

The newsletters are now available on our website as well. We look forward to your valuable comments and support.

Vinay Singh
Editor

Highlights of this issue

- R. Gopalkrishnan is Executive Director of Tata Sons Ltd
- Ramon Magsaysay Award to Arvind Kejriwal
- Arun Sari, Vodafone CEO, donates US\$500,000
- Krishan Khana nominated to working group of Planning Commission
- IIT news
- IITAA Advisory Board
- An interview with Rajat Gupta
- IITAA Seminar Report
- IIT 2006 - Global IIT Alumni Conference- 23-25 Dec 2006
- IITAA's new website
- IITAA membership categories
- Quotes to reflect upon
- Meet Your Committee Member – Vivek Sheel, Treasurer, IITAA

R. Gopalkrishnan is Executive Director of Tata Sons Ltd

R. Gopalakrishnan, an IIT Kharagpur graduate, has recently taken over as Executive Director, Tata Sons Ltd which includes Tata Consulting Services. He is also chairman of Rallis India and vice-chairman of Tata Chemicals. He is a director of several Tata Group companies such as Tata Motors, Tata Power and Tata Internet Services. He also serves on the board of ICI and Castrol India.

The other IITians in Tata group are Ravi Kant, MD of Tata Motors and SK Gupta, Tata Group telecom advisor. You might know that Tetley tea is now a brand of Tata group.



Arvind Kejriwal gets 2006 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Emergent Leadership

Arvind Kejriwal, an IIT Kharagpur graduate has been selected for this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award for his contribution to India's right-to-information movement and empowering poor citizens to fight corruption. He was presented the award, Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, at a ceremony in Manila on August 31. The annual awards are named after late Philippine president Ramon Magsaysay.



Arun Sarin, Vodafone CEO, commits to donate US\$500,000 to IIT Kharagpur

Arun Sarin, Vodafone CEO, promises an investment of \$500,000 for electronics and telecom-based research facility to be set up at IIT Kharagpur.

<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=193020>

Krishan Khanna (IIT Kharagpur, 1961 batch) has been nominated into the Working Group of the Planning Commission for the 11th Plan. This Group will be looking at all aspects, past, present and especially the future - in the areas of Secondary Education & Vocational Education.

Abhishek K. of IIT Chennai, has been selected for a one-year internship under Bill Gates at Microsoft

Abhishek Kumarasubramanian, a student of IIT Chennai, has been selected for a one-year internship with Microsoft at its headquarters in the US where he will rub shoulders with Microsoft's founder Bill Gates. He was selected after he won Code4bill, a grueling seven-month competition organised by Microsoft.

<http://www.zeenews.com/znnew/articles.asp?aid=313487&sid=NAT>

S Chandra Sekar is just 15 and already in IIT

He is a Microsoft Certified professional, youngest Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and a Cisco Certified Network Associate. He has now joined IIT Madras for an M.Tech in computer science.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1890816.cms>

IITAA Advisory Board

IITAA is very pleased to welcome the following eminent members to IITAA Advisory Board and is confident of achieving greater heights under their guidance:

1. Rajat Gupta, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company, USA
2. Arjun Malhotra, Chairman, Headstrong, USA
3. Hiten Ghosh, Co-President, Global Pan IIT, USA
4. Brian Hays, Chairman, AIBC
5. Kumar Parkala, Global CIO, KPMG
6. Sunil Lal, partner, Hunt & Hunt

An interview with Rajat Gupta

The hi-flying IITian has come a long way since his initial years in Maniktala, his birthplace in Kolkata. His father was a journalist and mother a Montessori teacher. Gupta had lost both of them by the age of 18, in 1966. Undeterred, he went on to secure the 15th rank in the IIT-JEE the same year. After completing his B.Tech in mechanical engineering at IIT Delhi, he refused a job offer from ITC, preferring instead to join Harvard Business School where he'd got admission.

http://www.financialexpress.com/fe_full_story.php?content_id=137207

IIT Kharagpur graduates may like to read this newsletter

<http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/news01/newsletter.htm>

Government may franchise Brand IIT

The Planning Commission has suggested that private companies be allowed to build and run Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)

<http://www.dnaindia.com/report.asp?NewsID=1027431&CatID=2>



IITians' seminar on joint ventures

Coinciding with the visit of Professor Madhusudan Chakraborty from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, the IITians Association of Australia (IITAA) organised a seminar on July 7 at Invest Australia office to highlight networking at the academic level of the premier institutions in Australia and India.

Both the speakers — Professor Beryl Hesketh, Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Sydney, and Prof Chakraborty, recognized the academic excellence of IITs and how it could be tapped in Australia to bring mutual benefits.

Followed by a brief outline of the association's objectives and activities, including reading of a letter to IITAA by PM John Howard by Davender Jain, Executive General Manager, Axis Australia, Gary Johnston, said that they had been following miracle story of India, especially in the IT sector, and had opened an office in Mumbai.

He said he was impressed with the history of IITs and was working closely to facilitate joint educational ventures.

Prof Beryl Hesketh expressed surprise that the University of Sydney was virtually



From left, Prof Tim Hesketh, Gary Johnston, Kanti Singhi, visiting Prof. Madhu Chakraborty, Vice President IITAA Vinay Singh, Vijay Kumar and Davender Jain.

unknown in India. "We have been developing relations with the Institute of Science, Bangalore, and have held joint workshops

with JNU on environmental issues," she said, "while offering research scholarships and student exchange programmes to promote

Sydney University name".

Among other things, Prof Hesketh said, they were initiating joint PhD programmes which will have two coaches for research students, one in each country.

Prof Madhu Chakraborty, Dean of Alumni Affairs and International Relations at IIT Kharagpur, gave a long history of IITs, why these institutions were set up, and how after 55 years they have become a culture of their own.

"Modelled on the structure of MIT, IITs put a great deal of emphasis on research which is reflected in nearly an equal ratio of undergraduates to post graduates.

"IITs' success is also due to their graduates having gone all over the world to prove themselves and providing visibility by employing local people," he said, adding that this itself helped in the process of globalisation.

Prof Chakraborty also detailed several new initiatives taken by IIT Kharagpur, including setting up research programmes in medicine and several innovative ideas which allow students to study for their Master's degree in Germany while doing the thesis work in Kharagpur.

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IIT 2006 - Empowering India, the 4th annual conference in the series, alternating between USA and India, is being held in Mumbai from Dec 23 to Dec 26, 2006. If you happen to be in India during this period, please do not miss on this opportunity to attend IIT 2006.

http://www.financialexpress.com/fe_full_story.php?content_id=129819

IITAA's New Website

IITAA has been redesigning its website with the help of FMS IT solutions. You can now watch the IIT video on our website. This video was broadcast twice in US under the CBS Network 60 minutes program.

<http://www.iitaa.org.au/pressroom.aspx>

Hope you like the new look website. We would be eager to get your suggestions and feedback to further improve our website.

IITAA's Membership Categories

IITAA has created four categories of membership to allow more and more people to participate in and benefit from our association. These categories are

1. Full member – degree holders from any of the seven IITs
2. Associate member – graduates of an engineering college
3. Honorary member – membership by invitation only
4. Social member – membership for social activities only



Membership Renewal

Have you renewed your membership?

If not, please do so asap.

You can check the status of your membership by calling Vivek Sheel on mob: 0413459253

Your support and co-operation is crucial

Think of becoming a Life member!

Further details at www.iitaa.org.au/iitaa/join_iitaa.htm



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Connecting IITians Downunder

Diwali Dhamaka

IITAA is planning a Diwali Dhamaka, a musical evening with Vinod Rajput, Australia's leading singer and a graduate of IIT Kharagpur (http://users.bigpond.net.au/iitaa/talents_vinod.htm). He will be supported by Kiran Pradhan, our talented music director and a graduate of IIT Bombay (<http://www.muzitekcreations.com.au/>). Other artists that may join on this evening would be Aishwarya Nidhi, the talented actress and director and wife of Julius Sud, IITAA volunteer and an IIT Kharagpur graduate (<http://www.aishveryaanidhi.com/>) plus Srikant Bandyopadhyay, known as Bandy, the singing professor and a graduate of IIT Kharagpur (<http://members.optusnet.com.au/~bandyfamily/>)

We urgently need volunteers to project manage various activities for this program. Please contact us if you can volunteer in whatever capacity.

Feedback

Congratulations on the positive press! Looks like you had an excellent event.

Best wishes for many more and please do stay in touch.

Regards,

Suresh Shenoy

Executive Vice President

IMC, Inc.

11480 Commerce Park Dr.

Reston, VA 20191

Have you got some interesting articles, viewpoints or stories to share with fellow IITians?

Please send them to us for publication in IITAA newsletter

Quotes to reflect upon

You are never asked to do more than you are able to without being given the strength and ability to do it

- Eileen Caddy

Most people don't know how brave they are...they live their life in self-doubt

- RE Chambers

Meet Your Committee Member – Mr. Vivek Sheel, Treasurer, IITAA

Vivek Sheel has been active as a treasurer of IITAA and has been instrumental in building and managing IITAA's financial capabilities from strength to strength. With his ever smiling presence, Vivek is a great asset to IITAA. He is our international man as he is constantly on the move – both nationally and internationally.

Vivek is a graduate of IIT Roorkee (1973) and also hold a MBA (1999) from UTS and a MEM (Master of Engineering Management) (1998) from UTS. He has had excellent academic records with several High Distinctions and Distinctions to his credit.

Vivek is a Philips veteran with 31 years of service with the company out of his total of 33 years of working life. His working experience has been mainly in hi-tech electronics Industry especially medical imaging. He has led the Y2K project for Philips Systems during 1999-2000 and has managed a SAP R/3 implementation for Service Management and Human resource modules. The SAP project was commissioned in a record time, 4 weeks before the deadline. That speaks volume about his leadership capabilities.

Vivek has represented Philips Australia in INTEGRIS International Specialists Seminar, Philips Holland in 1996 & 1999 and has attended International Management Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 1991 and Holland in 1988.

Vivek is married with two children and lives in Baukham hills with his wife Monica. He is a keen golfer and never misses a chance to play a game of Golf.












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Connecting IITians Downunder

Executive Committee Members of IITAA

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Member
Davender Jain Mob: 0402074839	Vinay Singh Mob: 0433221124	Sushil Chaddha Mob: 0414630457	Vivek Sheel Mob: 0413459253	Sunil Raheja Mob: 0433152377
Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer		
Julius Sud Mob: 0405952056	Ashok Manglick Mob: 0407258891	Pramod Singh Mob: 0411780259		

IIT Campuses

						
Bombay Institute Alumni	Delhi Institute Alumni	Kanpur Institute Alumni	Madras Institute Alumni	Kharagpur Institute Alumni	Roorkee Institute Alumni	Guwahati Institute Alumni

IIT Alumni Associations in other countries

...generating momentum to build a global brand

IIT Alumni Association Singapore Website - www.iit-alumni.org.sg	Canada Website - www.iitalumnicanada.org
Japan Yahoo Group - groups.yahoo.com/group/iitjapan/ Contact - Sanjeev Sinha - SanjeevSinha@SanjeevSinha.Com	India Website - www.paniit2004.org Contact - Pawan vmoksha.com
EU Pan IIT EU President - Sharad Tripathi, sharad.tripathi@fluidyn.com	USA - IIT Society in New England (IIT-SINE) Region - New England - Boston Website - www.iitsine.org
USA - IIT Greater New York Region - Greater New York Area Website - www.iit.org/gny	USA - Southern California Region - Greater Los Angeles Area, California USA - Capital IIT Region - Washington D.C. area
USA - IIT Midwest Region - Midwestern United States Website - www.iitmidwest.org	USA - IIT Alumni Association of North Texas Region - North Texas, including Dallas Website - www.iitnt.org
USA - San Francisco Bay Area Region - San Francisco Bay Area, California including Silicon Valley Website - www.iit.org/sfbay	IIT Southeast Region - Southeast Yahoo group - IITansInCharlotte

IITAA is the alumni Association representing IIT alumni from Australia and New Zealand...visit us at www.iitaa.org.au