



Dear IITians,

Welcome to the June issue of IITAA Newsletter for the year 2008.

IITAA organized its first professional event of the year - "From Imagination to Impact" on 25 March 2008. The key speaker for this seminar, Dr. David Skellern, CEO NICTA provided an engaging presentation.

*On 22nd June 2008, IITAA is organizing a **family picnic**. All members are invited to join in the festivities with their **family** and **friends**. As last year, there is going to be lots of **fun activities** and a great variety of **food** and **drinks** – so please make sure you are there to enjoy with everyone.*

*With best wishes,
IITAA Team*

Highlights of this issue

- IITAA launches 2008 with its first event
- Australia-India FTA Joint Feasibility Study
- Upcoming Events
- Farewell to Dr. Pramod Singh
- UC Berkeley — IIT Kharagpur Collaboration Launch
- IITAA's Dr Sri Bandyopadhyay on sabbatical in India
- Energy & Transportation 2008 Conference, IIT Madras

IITAA launches 2008 with its first event.

IITAA organized "From Imagination to Impact" – a NICTA Seminar on 25 March 2008, its first seminar in the series of professional events. NICTA is a premier national ICT research organisation in Australia. The Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) provided the venue - ANZAC Room on Level 47, MLC Centre, Martin Place.

DK Jain, President IITAA opened the seminar and introduced Inderjeet Singh Viridi, EC member as MC for the evening. Linda Taylor, Senior Manager, India Desk, DSRD presented a range of DSRD initiatives for promoting investments in Australia.

Dr Skellern, CEO NICTA is one of Australia's most successful ICT entrepreneurs, with a strong background in research, education, collaboration, and commercialization. In 2007, Dr Skellern was awarded with the CSIRO Tony Benson Award for Individual Achievement in ICT.



(L-R) Inderjeet Singh Viridi, Davender Jain, Linda Taylor (DSRD), Devendra Verma, Dr. David Skellern (CEO, NICTA), Vivek Sheel, Gautam Batra and Neeraj Mathur.



He was also honored with an IEEE Fellowship.

Dr David Skelleren, provided an engaging presentation on the NICTA background, its focus on delivering ICT research to the industry and creating a novel research organisation. NICTA has over 480 research and professional staff who are working on various research initiatives. NICTA also presented investment opportunities that may be available in specific areas for public and private sector including overseas countries such as India and China to commercialize the research.

The program finished with a lively question answer session and a note of thanks by MC. Later Dr Skelleren joined IITians and enjoyed a delicious Indian meal at a nearby Indian restaurant.

The quality of the seminar was a testimony to IITAA's ongoing commitment to bring high valued cutting-edge technical and professional seminars and networking opportunities for its members.

Australia-India FTA Joint Feasibility Study

Australia and India agreed in August 2007 to undertake a feasibility study into the merits of a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA). The study is being conducted jointly by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Indian Department of Commerce. It is expected that the study will be completed by early 2009.

The Australian Government is attaching high priority to seeking the expertise and views of stakeholders in the bilateral economic relationship. Such views will provide an important input into the feasibility study.

On behalf of ITAA, Mr Inderjeet Singh Viridi is coordinating all responses from the members as advised by IITAA President. If you wish to make any contributions to the study, please contact Mr. Inderjeet Singh Viridi at inderjeet.virdi@gmail.com or iitaa-owner@yahoo.com

Message from Dr. David Skelleren – CEO, NICTA

"Thanks for the opportunity to address the IITA on 25 March and for the very pleasant dinner afterwards. "

Membership Renewal

Have you renewed your membership for this year?

If not, please do so asap.

You can check the status of your membership by calling Gautam Batra on mob: 0423968674

Your support and co-operation is crucial to us.

Upcoming Event

- **Family Picnic**

Date: **22nd June 2008**
Time: **11:30am - 4:30pm**
Venue: **Bi-centennial Park, Sydney Olympic park**





Farewell to Dr. Pramod Singh

Dr. Pramod Singh, ex-Vice President of IITAA, has recently moved to India and has resigned from IITAA Executive Committee. Dr. Pramod has joined HCL technologies Ltd at Chennai, India. On behalf of IITAA, we extend our best wishes for his new career.

Mr. Vivek Sheel has been nominated by IITAA EC as the new Vice-President of IITAA with Mr. Gautam Batra taking over the responsibilities of IITAA treasurer. Mr Siddharth Sanyal has kindly accepted the position of EC Member.

UC Berkeley — IIT Kharagpur Collaboration Launch

UC Berkeley-IIT Kharagpur collaboration was formally launched with the start of an 8-week summer research program for eleven IIT Kharagpur students at UC Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Labs (LBL) on May 27, 2008.

The collaboration is currently focused on biofuels (energy), and biotech (healthcare).

For details visit <http://www.iitfoundation.org/?p=173>

IITAA's Dr Sri Bandyopadhyay of UNSW SMSE, on sabbatical in India

IITAA member / Kgpian Dr Sri Bandyopadhyay of SMSE / UNSW Sydney spent 10 weeks (Dec 07 – Fe 08) on sabbatical at Bengal Eng & Sci University Shibpur – where he initiated a new research project on polymer – carbon nano tubes involving BESU and Science College of Calcutta University.

Sri participated at the International Rubber & Rubberlike Materials Conf at IIT Kgp and presented the final paper of the conference, which was an invited one, and which was on hybrid nanocomposites research at UNSW, UTS and ETH Zurich – both from mechanical and electromagnetic applications points of view.

Energy & Transportation 2008 Conference to be held at IIT Madras in July 2008

In view of the growing emergence of India as the Technology R&D hub of many large multi-national corporations, the IIT EU Alumni Association decided in its 2008 program to bring students & research scholars of IIT and other educational institutions in India and Europe closer to European and Indian industry in key sectors. Two key areas identified for this year are **Energy** and **Transportation**. To find out more, please visit

<http://www.iit-eu.org/>

Membership Categories

- Annual Membership
- 3 year membership
- Life Membership

Four new IITs, six IIMs to be set up

In a bid to give an impetus to the higher education sector, Indian Government on Friday decided to establish four new IITs and six IIMs in various states besides upgrading some of the state universities to the status of Central Universities.






While the new IITs would be located in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Gujarat and Punjab, the IIMs would come up in Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Uttarakhand and Haryana.



Executive Committee Members of IITAA

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Member
Davender Jain Mob: 0402074839	Vivek Sheel Mob: 0413459253	Devendra Verma Mob: 0410678446	Gautam Batra Mob: 0423968674	Inderjeet Singh Virdi Mob: 0425362754
Member	Member	Member	Member	
Premalal Kumarasiri Mob: 0415689865	Neeraj Mathur Mob: 0413383526	Ishwar Singh Lamba Mob: 0408551546	Siddharth Sanyal	

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