



ITI HAS

(IT Is Happening At SASTRA)



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Newsletter from SASTRA UNIVERSITY



Message from

VICE - CHANCELLOR

I welcome the Planning Commission's move to elicit opinions of all stakeholders including the general public for its 'Approach Paper' to the XII Plan. It is a step in the right direction.

While the government is encouraging private participation in education, it must also think of funding private universities or alternatively offer soft loans to them and also enable them to share foreign funds for infrastructure development. I hope that the Planning Commission will make such provisions in the Plan. It will raise the standards of Indian higher education to international levels.

It is heartening to note that the Five-Year integrated Law programmes offered by SASTRA have been approved by the Bar Council of India. The Council was highly appreciative of the University's efforts to offer quality education.

The XXIV Convocation was held on August 14, 2010. Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister delivered the convocation address. SASTRA had the wonderful opportunity to host the 26th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival in August, in which 27 Universities from the South participated.

SASTRA is emerging as a faculty training centre in a big way. It has signed an MoU with the Information and Communication Technology Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT) to train the college teachers. SASTRA also offers faculty training programmes in collaboration with corporate giants, notably, TCS and Wipro.

This issue of ITIHAS comes to you with more interesting news – technical festivals organized by various Schools, a novel business venture by our students, laurels won by the faculty and students.

Season's Greetings and best wishes.

Prof. R. Sethuraman
Vice-Chancellor

XXIV CONVOCATION

The Twenty-Fourth Convocation of SASTRA University was held on August 14, 2010. Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister, Secretary DDR&D & Director General, DRDO delivered the convocation address and awarded the degrees.

Delivering the convocation address, Dr. Saraswat said, "India is in the process of becoming a technological force with all round growth in various sectors of economy, namely, agriculture, product manufacturing, textiles, transport, communication, power and services sector." Dr. Saraswat said there is considerable advancement in our defence services capabilities in terms of high technology products and equipment. Today we are a leading nation in Information Technology and have a strong base in software development. Similarly there have been advancements in aerospace technologies and their applications for communication systems.

Stating that knowledge base is indeed the foundation for leading our country into a developed nation, Dr. Saraswat said time is ripe for this because of the increasing trend of economy and availability of great institutions like SASTRA for capacity building of



Dr. V.K. Saraswat presenting the best outgoing girl student award to Kum. R. Ranjani



Dr. V.K. Saraswat delivering the convocation address

human resource and abundant natural resources. Further, we have a force of over 540 million youth who are determined to make the quality of life better, with prosperity and happiness.

“With this background, India must take the lead in mobilising and integrating knowledge resources for its transformation into a nation of advanced technologies”, Dr. Saraswat said. Tracing the history of the country, he said that our first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru gave high priority and thrust for the evolution of scientific temper through establishment of science and technology centres. He recalled the services rendered by great scientists like C.V. Raman, Vikram Sarabhai, Homi Bhaba, the success of Green revolution led by M. S. Swaminathan and the White revolution led by Varghese Kurien.

He called for exploring the alternative resources from space and other planets, as our continuous exploitation of the resources for energy is leading to depletion of natural resources like oil fuels. He spoke about missile programmes led by Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam and stressed upon the need for harnessing technology advancements. He stressed upon the importance of university-industry

interaction and University, research and development institution and industry interaction.

He called for an annual investment of Rs. 150 crores by the Government, to translate collaborative working of universities and industries into action. He also said synergic arrangement between the Government, industry and academia should be the future approach for development.

D.Sc. (honoris causa) to Dr. SARASWAT

Dr. Saraswat was conferred Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) by SASTRA on the occasion. Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor of SASTRA, conferred the degree on him.

D.Litt. (honoris causa) to Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam

SASTRA University conferred Doctor of Letters (*honoris causa*) on Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam, renowned Bharathanatyam Danseuse, Researcher, Choreographer & Music Composer.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam said that she felt as though Goddess Saraswathi Herself was conferring a degree on her as she considered SASTRA a manifestation of the Goddess of Wisdom. 'It makes me more responsible and I will move forward towards my commitment to our rich heritage.' she added advising the graduates not to forget that they are Indians wherever they went.

Degrees were conferred on 3313 candidates. R. Ranjani received the best outgoing girl student award for the 2010 batch.

Earlier, Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, welcomed the chief guest and the gathering. Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi, Professor, School of Chemical & Biotechnology, proposed a vote of thanks.



Graduands waiting to receive their degrees

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (honoris causa) To Dr. V.K. SARASWAT - CITATION

Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat graduated in Mechanical Engineering from Jiwaji University and completed his post graduation from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. A Ph. D. in Combustion Engineering from Osmania University, Dr. V. K. Saraswat started his career in DRDO in 1972 at the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad, and is currently the Secretary, Department of Defence Research & Development, Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri and Director General, Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Dr. V. K. Saraswat was the Project Director of 'Prithvi', where he worked for the development of liquid

propulsion technologies and developed a three ton liquid propulsion engine for Prithvi Missile System. He was responsible for the development of the country's first Liquid Propulsion Engine and this engine was used as the 'work horse' for the three versions of Prithvi Missile.

Dr. V. K. Saraswat steered the design, development, production and induction of India's first indigenous

Surface-to-Surface missile system into the armed forces by conducting several developmental flights and user trial flights. Dr. V. K. Saraswat played a key and important role in the development and manufacture of the Naval variant of Prithvi missile, 'Dhanush' for the Naval Services.

Dr. V. K. Saraswat was Director, Research Centre Imarat (RCI) before taking over as Distinguished Scientist and Chief Controller Research & Development (Missiles and Strategic Systems) in November 2005. In his capacity as Controller Research & Development (Missiles and Strategic Systems), Dr. V. K. Saraswat spearheaded the development of our country's strategic and tactical missile systems including the AGNI series of strategic missiles covering a range of up to 3000 kms as well as Air Defence system against hostile ballistic

Dr. V. K. Saraswat has undertaken the task of developing India's BMD system and has conducted three interceptor trials proving critical technologies. He developed Long Range Radars, Command Control Communication Computer and Intelligence (C4I) Systems & equipments like Mission Control Centre (MCC), Mobile Communication Terminal (MCT), Target Update Transmitter (TUT), etc and new Interceptor Missiles – Prithvi Air Defence (PAD) & Advanced Air Defence (AAD).

Dr. V. K. Saraswat has been bestowed with both national & international awards and some of the notable awards include – Dr. Y Nayudamma Memorial Award (2009),

Prof. Jai Krishna Memorial Award from the Indian National Academy of Engineering (2009), Technology Leadership Award (2007), Outstanding Indian Award from One India One People (2006), Path Breaking Research and Outstanding Technology Development Award (2006), FICCI Annual Award for the year (2004–05), Award for Vocational Excellence in Leadership by Rotary

International District 3140, Mumbai (2002) and Padmashri by the Government of India (1998)

Dr. V. K. Saraswat has contributed immensely as a technology and project leader to the development of Missile System. With a deep sense of appreciation for his devoted service to the country in various capacities and for his outstanding contributions to Indian Defence, his visionary approach, his leadership qualities and faith in a value-based approach to life and for his earnest endeavour to enthuse and ignite the scientific temper amongst the youth of the country, and by way of offering SASTRA's homage to a technocrat-intellectual, I have the honour to present unto you, Dr. Vijay Kumar Saraswat for the conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa).



Our Vice-Chancellor confers D.Sc. (honoris causa) on Dr. Saraswat

DOCTOR OF LETTERS (honoris causa) to Dr. PADMA SUBRAHMANYAM - CITATION

Born to Shri. K.Subrahmanyam, a renowned and an internationally acclaimed film director and freedom fighter, Dr.Padma Subrahmanyam hails from an illustrious family of artists. She had an insatiable thirst for Bharatanatyam from early childhood and learnt the art from Vazhuoor Ramaiah Pillai. With a Bachelor's degree in Music, Master's degree in Ethno Musicology and a Ph.D. for her thesis titled "Karanas in Indian Dance & Sculpture", Dr.Padma symbolises the fusion of Art and Academics.

A world renowned performer and authority on Bharatanatyam, Dr.Padma Subrahmanyam was the first to bridge the gap between theory and practice and revived an obsolete dance technique, translating theoretical concepts into practice. For five decades, she has been performing extensively in India and abroad. She was perhaps the first artiste who went and performed for our jawans in the forward areas in early sixties.



Our Vice-Chancellor confers D.Litt. (honoris causa) on Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam

As a choreographer she has been responsible for expansion of technique through use of the entire body with leaps and extension of legs, fast footwork for ramification of rhythm, a broad spectrum of artistic expression, revival of the mono-acting technique (Banika style) and various dance dramas. Her solo depiction of "Jatayu Moksham" in Ramayana set to the overture of Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet" and solo depiction of "Gajendra Moksham" set to the music of Miagi Michio of Japan demonstrate her choreographic genius.

As a composer & singer, Dr.Padma scores music for most of her productions apart from numerous individual compositions and has a flair for singing in various Indian and foreign languages. She has also choreographed Bharatanatyam recitals in Tamil, Kashmiri, Hindi, Bengali, Oriya, Marathi Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam languages.

Dr.Padma Subrahmanyam drew scholastic inspiration from the Paramacharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam whom she reveres a lot for blessing her with intellectual

wisdom to further her research progress. With an aptitude for research, Dr.Padma discovered that the "108 Karanas" (basic units of dance) are actually movements and not just static poses. Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam revived the Marga technique, common to the entire Indian sub-continent and thus paved the way for national integration through the indigeneous art. Apart from discovering candid links between Natya Sastra and Indonesia, she realised through the lectures of Pujyasri Mahaswami of Kanchi, the importance of ancient Tamil literature "Tiruppavai" & Tiruvempavai" being used in Thailand. Similarly, her visits to Japan and

Australia have considerably strengthened her conviction about Asia's common cultural links.

Dr.Padma Subrahmanyam started teaching at NRITHYODAYA, a School for Dance & Music and is now its President & Director.

She was honoured with Padma Bhushan & Padmashri by the President of India for her outstanding

contribution to Dance. She has been awarded Kalaimamani by the Govt. of Tamilnadu and many awards from various State Governments and Cultural, Religious & Voluntary organisations. She was also awarded the Fukuoka Asian Cultural Prize - from Fukuoka, Japan being the only dancer in the world to receive this prestigious award for "her contribution to development & harmony in Asia." Besides these, she has won many awards from various organisations in USA, UK, Canada, Singapore and SriLanka.

With a deep sense of appreciation for her devoted service to Bharatanatyam in various capacities, for her outstanding contributions to Indian Art & Culture, for her deep faith in Indian ethos & values and for her earnest endeavour to promote Bharatanatyam as a cultural tool for national integration and by way of offering SASTRA's homage to an artist-intellectual, I have the honour to present unto you, Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam for the conferment of the Degree of Letters (honoris causa).

SASTRA HOSTS 26th INTER-UNIVERSITY SOUTH ZONE YOUTH FESTIVAL

The 26th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival – 2010 was organized by SASTRA University, under the aegis of the Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi and the sponsorship of Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, between August 21 and 25, 2010.

The Festival was inaugurated on 21st August 2010 by Shri Babaji Raja Bhonsle, Senior Prince of Thanjavur & Hereditary Trustee of Palace Devasthanam. Inaugurating the festival, the Senior Prince commended the efforts of the sponsors in bringing together students from Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Tamilnadu, under one roof and thus representing different life styles. He provided valuable insights into the cultural richness of Thanjavur, which he said, had provided a fund of intellectual inputs for the researchers from all over the world. The kings of different dynasties who ruled the ancient temple town of Thanjavur -- the Cholas, Pandiyas, Nayaks and Marathas -- had ensured that its culture and tradition were preserved despite a number of invasions, Bhabhaji Raja Bhonsle said.

24 cultural competitions under dance, music, literary events, theatre and fine arts were held during the festival.

In the valedictory function of the five-day mega event held on 25th August 2010, Dr.V. Varadarajan, Chairman of Brahan Natyanjali Foundation, Thanjavur, distributed the trophy to the winning teams. Mangalore University from Karnataka and S.S. Sanskrit University from Kaladi, Kerala jointly lifted the overall championship trophy. University of Calicut, Kerala won the Runner-Up trophy.



Shri Babaji Rajah Bhonsle lighting the traditional lamp

In the valedictory function Shri Samson David, Under Secretary, AIU read out the message of Prof. Beena Shah, Secretary General, AIU. Prof. Beena Shah in her message thanked Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, SASTRA University for his enormous help and support towards organizing the South Zone Inter University Youth Festival in an exemplary way. Her message also elaborated the role of UNIFESTS to promote human values, culture, personality development, National Integration and artistic talents in the youth.

In all, 958 youth participants from 27 Universities took part in this mammoth event, which stretched across ethnicities from the four states of Andhra, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

Dr. G. Venkatraman, Associate Professor of English, SASTRA University was the Organizing Secretary for the Youth Festival.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Music : Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka.
University of Madras, Chennai, TN
2. Dance : S S University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala.
3. Literary : SASTRA University, Thanjavur, TN.
4. Theatre : Mangalore University, Mangalore, Karnataka.
5. Fine Arts : University of Mysore, Mysore, Karnataka.
6. Runners Up : University of Calicut, Calicut, Kerala
7. Overall
Championship : Mangalore University, Mangalore, Karnataka.
& S S University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala



The winning teams & Team Managers of Mangalore University & S S University of Sanskrit, Kerala receive the Overall Championship Trophy

BAR COUNCIL APPROVES SASTRA'S COURSES

The Bar Council of India has granted approval for the Five-Year Integrated Law programmes conducted by SASTRA University. BA, LLB; B.Com, LLB; and BBA, LLB., are the courses for which the Bar Council granted approval for the academic years of 2009-10; 2010-11; and 2011-12.

The Bar Council lauded the remarkable progress achieved by the Law School established by SASTRA within two years of its establishment. Recording the reasons for granting approval, the Bar Council said: "The School of Law has recorded a remarkable progress within two years of its establishment in 2008, which is reflected in various activities. The School has an impressive model of operation and is tuned to developing a system for ethical law practices; it has an academic focus with professional training; it is honest in imparting legal education; the infrastructure created for the programme is excellent, and additions to the existing resources have been envisaged; glimpses of continued progress with respect to the programmes and emphasis on value-based education are felt in the entire campus."

It said: "The University has been re-accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with the highest grade 'A,' and the University's reputation as a renowned centre of learning for technical and research education can facilitate smooth running of such a programme."

Appreciating the rich collection of books in the library, the Bar Council said: "The law library of the university has a rich collection of legal reference books, textbooks and online resources, and the Moot Court created in the School of Law facilitates experimental learning. The admission procedure is merit-based and transparent, and [the School] has attracted students from different parts of the country. The School's strong network with legal luminaries, Boards and Councils helps in periodic



Moot Court Session

professional lectures, and students have won various positions in moot court competitions within two years." "In view of the above position, continuing the School of Law would help to propagate a well thought-out model of legal education in this part of the State."

On August 7, 2010, a peer team from the Bar Council of India visited SASTRA University for this purpose.

ICTACT-SASTRA INK MoU

Information and Communication Technology Academy of Tamil Nadu (ICTACT), Chennai and SASTRA University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to train faculty members of Engineering, Arts and Science Colleges, Polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), in Tamil Nadu. The MoU was signed by Shri K. Lakshminarayanan, Vice-Chairman, Cognizant Technology Solutions, who is also the chairman of ICTACT and Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA University, on July 9, 2010.

As per the agreement, ICTACT will develop a world class Information and Communication Technology (ICT) related curriculum which would be made available to faculty members throughout the state through an online portal. Industry experts would train the faculty to keep them abreast of the market demands.

SASTRA University will act as the Associate Nodal Institute of ICTACT. 5,000 faculty members throughout the state will be trained in a span of three years.

Shri Lakshminarayanan said that in future, the working in industries will be more technologically oriented with less dependence on manpower. In such a scenario, training to teachers to update their knowledge is necessary to prepare the students with inputs to meet the industrial demand.

Shri K. Jayaramakrishnan, Vice-President, Tata Consultancy Services participated.



SASTRA WINS TECHTOP 2010

SASTRA University team's project titled "Carbon Nano Tubes from the Exhaust Emissions of Industries" won the first prize at TECHTOP 2010, a National Level Innovative Contest for Engineers held at Technopark, Trivandrum between 29 and 31 July, 2010. Tech-Top 2010 was organised by Technopark, Degree Controls Inc. of the U.S., the National Research Development Corporation, the Executive Knowledge Lines monthly and the IEEE Kerala chapter.

The team from SASTRA comprising students from the School of Biotechnology - Nair Vivek Sahadevan, S.Venkateswara Rao, L.R.Praveen, Deepak Krishna, N.Guru Krupa was guided by Dr. R.Kumaresan, Associate Dean, SCBT, SASTRA University.



SASTRA team with the award

Production of Carbon nanotubes(CNTs) from the flue gases emitted by the industries is the team's main innovation. Normally, CNTs are produced in laboratories using CVD (Carbon Vapour Deposition) furnace by supplying high temperature(600 – 1200 degree celcius), high pressure, Vacuum atmosphere or inert atmosphere and a continuous source of carbon dioxide, methane i.e. carbon source and hydrogen. All these requirements for the CNT production are available as waste in the furnaces & exhaust pipes of various industries. The flue gas released by the industry has carbon-dioxide, methane, nitrogen, hydrogen and some particulate matter. The content varies on the type of fuel, but the above mentioned constituents will be mostly present. The furnace operates at very high temperature,

pressure and has a naturally generated vacuum atmosphere inside it. The burning of the fuel ensures continuous supply of flue gases. All these conditions present in the industrial furnaces, boilers and exhaust pipes are wasted in the form of energy and matter. Tapping this resource and by modifying the CVD (Carbon Vapour Deposition) method by adequately modifying the substrates, the team demonstrated the possibility to cultivate CNTs successfully.

The team was awarded the first prize which included a citation and a cash award of Rs. 1 lakh.

TechTop 2010 is the fifth edition of this annual competition organised by Technopark and Degree Controls Inc, in an effort to locate budding techno entrepreneurs at an early stage. For TechTop 2010, 222 teams from 11 States participated in the preliminary round, out of which 58 teams were selected and asked to complete their projects. SASTRA'S winning project will be forwarded to the Department for Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) for Technopreneur Promotion Programme (TePP) / Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) funding.

HINGES '10

An attempt was made to assemble all the aspiring Civil Engineering students from all over the country to participate in the Hinges 10, a national level technical festival organized by School of Civil Engineering on 17th & 18th September 2010. Technical events like "Probe" (Paper Presentation) "Inquisitive" (quiz competition) "Capamastro" (Structural Modelling), Brique Sauter (Brick wall construction), "Progetto" (poster presentation) and Seul Macon (Concrete cube testing) were conducted. 150 participants from various colleges and Universities participated in the events. 32 papers covering the various specializations of Civil Engineering were presented. The event was inaugurated by Dr. K. Muthumani, Director Grade Scientist, Structural Engineering Research Centre, Chennai. He spoke on "Earthquake Resistant Structures." He directed the students community to think differently and bring innovative building materials. PROBE was conducted in 6 sessions with a key note address by an eminent professor. Dr. A. Murugappan, Head, Dept. of CE Annamalai University, Dr. C.J. Kumanan, Head of Remote Sensing, Bharatidasan University, Prof. S. Anantha Padmanaban, Dean/School of Civil

Engineering SASTRA, Dr. R. Siva Coumar, Scientist NEERI Chennai, and Dr.S.Seshadri, Dean, SRC, SASTRA chaired the paper presentation sessions.

The winners of the various events were awarded cash prizes. Dr.K.Saravana Rajamohan, Associate Dean & Professor / School of Civil Engineering was the convener of the symposium.

This programme was sponsored by Builders Association of India (Tanjore Chapter), Ultratech Cements, RAMCO Cements, AMR Corporation, Tata Docomo, P.S.K. Constructions, Saipem India projects, Deonar Services Ltd, SMI ready mix concrete, S.S. Constructions, Navayuga Constructions, Campus UK and TestFunda.



Inaugural function

GANAKOTSAV '10

Ganakotsav '10, the state level technical festival was organized by the Dept of Computer Applications, SASTRA on September 3 & 4, 2010. Events like paper presentation, Expert Choice, Project Professional, Virus Mania, Network Gaming, Be a Teacher were conducted.

Shri G. Kameswar, Senior Consultant, TCS inaugurated the event. Experts from TCS and CTS delivered key-note addresses and chaired the sessions. 200 participants from 32 colleges from all over Tamil Nadu participated. Shri Gnanasakthi Sabarathinam, Senior Manager, CTS delivered the valedictory address and distributed the cash awards and certificates.



Shri G. Kameswar delivering the inaugural address

SEMINAR ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurship Development Cell, SASTRA University conducted a two-day seminar on 4th and 5th September 2010 on the topic “Nurture the Entrepreneurs in U”. The seminar helped the participants to identify the opportunities for entrepreneurs to prepare the project report and to interact with entrepreneur. It also provided information regarding the starting of SSI units, availing of loans from financial institutions and discussed the common problems faced by entrepreneurs. Dr.V.Badrinath Dean/SOM presided over the function. Mr.KR. Gnanasambandan, Director Aathma, Madurai and Mr.M. Jeyakumar, CEO, TACED, Madurai were the resource persons for the programme. Mr.G. Raveendaran, GM (i/c), District Industries Center, Thanjavur. Mr.Sridhar, Lead District Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, Thanjavur and Mr.M. Srinivasan, Industrialist, Trichy addressed the various sessions. Mr. Albin D. Robert Lawrence, Staff In-charge, Entrepreneurship Development Cell co-ordinated the programme.



SEMINAR ON INVESTOR AWARENESS



SASTRA University in association with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, National Stock Exchange of India Ltd., and Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chennai conducted an

interactive session on “Investor Awareness on Capital Market” on 15th September 2010. Navia Market Ltd was the knowledge partner to the session. Mr. Saurabh Chacko, NSEIL, Chennai and Mr.S. Valliappan, Group Head- HR, Navia Market Ltd., were the guest speakers. Mr. K.A. Shreenivasan, Staff In-charge, Warren Buffet Club co-ordinated the function.

WIPRO MISSION 10 X PROGRAMMES

WIPRO MISSION 10X Faculty Empowerment Workshop was organized by the Department of Training and Placement from 23- 27 August 2010. 30 faculty members from Kings College of Engineering, Sudarshan College of Engineering, MAM College of Engineering & SASTRA participated in the workshop. Training on High-Impact Teaching Skills to identify the multiple intelligences of the learners and planning the class content to cater to the multiple intelligences and introducing innovative teaching techniques in the class room was given to the participants. Mr. Subramaniam, Ms. Gautami, Dr. Sricharan from Wipro Technologies were the resource persons.

WIPRO MISSION 10X Faculty Empowerment Pre-Workshop was organized by the Department of Training and Placement on 16th August 2010.

The Second phase of Wipro Unified Learning Kit Training was organized on 20th August 2010. Faculty members from the School of Computing and the School of EEE underwent the training.

Dr.V.Badrinath, Dean(T&P) attended the Educators Meet organized on the eve of Third Anniversary of 'WIPRO Mission 10X' at Bangalore on September 6, 2010. He received the first Unified Learning Kit on behalf of SASTRA from Mr. Narendra Bahirwani, Global Head & Vice-President, Talent Acquisition, WIPRO in the presence of Hon'ble Shri.Kapil Sibal, Union Minister for HRD and Shri. Azim Premji, CEO, WIPRO.



Dr.V. Badrinath receives the Unified Learning Kit

TRAINING PROGRAMME ATTENDED

Mr.V. Chandrasekar Dr. Brinda Giri, Assistant Professors of the Dept of T&P, Dr.K. Ramkumar, SAP of SEEE and Mrs. Abirami, Assistant Professor of SOC attended the WIPRO MISSION 10X Master Trainer

programme from July, 19-22, 2010 in Bangalore. The programme was organized by WIPRO Technologies, Bangalore. Dr. K. Ram Kumar received the **“Innovative Practitioner Award”** from the Mission 10X. He is one of the six from the Mission10ians family who have qualified for this recognition for the first time.

TRAINING ON JEWELLERY MAKING

Entrepreneurship Development Cell, SASTRA University in association with Gramalaya, Trichy conducted a training programme for Self Help Groups of Gramalaya from 30th August to 3rd September 2010. 30 Self Help Group women who are in the below poverty line attended the training on 'Kundan Jewellery Making' Mr. Albin D. Robert Lawrence, Staff In-charge, Entrepreneurship Development Cell co-ordinated the programme.

COMPUTER TRAINING TO TN POLICE

A 40-day Advanced Computer Training was offered to seven Police Officers of Thanjavur range. The Department of Computer Applications, SASTRA conducted the training in August and September 2010.

In yet another computer training programme offered in two batches on 19th, 20th, 26th and 27th June 2010, 120 police personnel attended. The programme focused on Computer Literacy in RADMS and CAARUS. This service programme was organized based on the request made by the Superintendent of Police, Thanjavur.



WIE at SASTRA

Women in Engineering (WIE), a Chapter of IEEE, was launched by IBM at SASTRA on August 28, 2010 with a mission to empower Women in Technology and to provide information and insight for women about careers in engineering and technology.

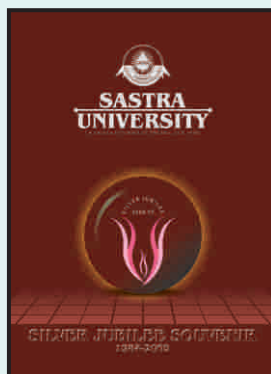
As a part of WIE event in SASTRA, IBM India invited abstracts for the poster contest discussing technologies and solutions for SMARTER PLANET. Of all the posters submitted, the top 15 ideas were selected by IBM on the basis of the originality and the novelty of the idea and the top 5 posters were given prizes and certificates on the occasion.

The meeting began with a brief note on WIE and introduction of the guests by Dr.A.Umamakeswari, Associate Dean, School of Computing. The Guest Speaker of the Session was Ms. Premalatha M Nair, Program Director, Linux Technology Center and Women in Technology Lead, IBM Bangalore who spoke on women in workforce and the success mantras for women leaders. She said that she was highly impressed by the quality of the students in SASTRA through the ideas presented via poster sessions and the amount of enthusiasm shown during the sessions. Her talk was followed by sessions on “Leadership Competencies and career development” by Ms.Sandhya Venugopal and Ms.Sowmya Vijayalakshmi, Technical Leads, IBM Bangalore. Dr.M.Vijayalakshmi, Associate Dean, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, SASTRA presented the state of “Women in Research” indicating that research is driven by passion and is a very respectable and is an achievable and desirable career path. The talk also highlighted the new policies initiated by the Indian Government and the Research Councils to encourage women inclined to research.

A Panel discussion on Women in Engineering and Technology was the interesting part of the event. Special prizes were given away to the best posters that described a “Smarter Planet” of the future years.



SASTRA SILVER JUBILEE SOUVENIR



A Souvenir has been brought out in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of SASTRA University. The multi-colour Silver Jubilee Souvenir contains felicitatory messages from the President of India, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Union HRD Minister and other eminent men from all walks of life. It highlights the various special events organized during the year-long Silver Jubilee Celebrations. The souvenir is a recordation of the great achievements of SASTRA in the last 25 years.

BOOK PUBLISHED

The Department of English, SASTRA published a text book in English titled “Strategies in Communication” in June 2010. The text book meant for the First Semester B.Tech programmes of SASTRA, focuses on the basic strategies in communication with special emphasis on scientific discourse.



IMPRINT – SASTRA'S MONTHLY IN-HOUSE NEWSLETTER



A team of 15 B.Tech. students of SASTRA has launched 'IMPRINT' - the In-House Monthly Newsletter of SASTRA in August 2010. The 12-page newsletter in tabloid form gives an extensive coverage of various activities of the University in a month. The newsletter has regular features like SASTRA Unplugged, Coffee Table, Geek It Up, Spot Light and Potpourri. The student-editorial team exhibits their extraordinary creativity and artistic talents through this newsletter. The editorial team of ITIHAS commends them for this venture.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Independence Day was celebrated at SASTRA on 15th August 2010 at SASTRA Campus. Dr. S.N. Srivatsava, Registrar, hoisted the tricolor and addressed the staff and students. Earlier the NCC wings of SASTRA accorded a Guard of Honour to the Registrar.



FOOD COURT MANAGED BY B.TECH. STUDENTS

13 Final B.Tech students of SASTRA turned out 'Manageneers.' They have brought Technology and Management under single spotlight by becoming entrepreneurs while being regular students of SASTRA. They are managing a full-fledged Food Court at SASTRA campus which was started by them. 'Canopy,' the novel venture by the students, is the result of the Open Elective Course conducted by Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA on "Development of Enterprise." They have also started a high tech laundry with the help of a leading laundry service provider in Thanjavur. Gurunath, a reputed university department store from Chennai also have established their shop in Canopy. Management of SASTRA University has provided financial support to the students for this business venture.



SASTRA B.F.A & M.F.A. STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE NATYANJALI OF THE BIG TEMPLE MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS

42 students of the BFA & MFA courses of SASTRA University, formed part of the 1000 dancers who performed in the Mega Natyanjali programme conducted by Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam on September 25, 2010 at the Bhrahadeeswarar Temple, Thanjavur, as part of its millennium celebrations. SASTRA is offering these courses in association with Nrithyodaya, the dance school of Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam.



1985 BATCH ALUMNI MEET

An Alumni Meet of the 1985-86 Batch B.E./B.Tech. students of Shanmugha College of Engineering was held at SASTRA campus on August 14, 2010. The alumni of the batch met each other after a gap of 25 years and shared their sweet reminiscences. They had a meeting with the teachers from whom they studied. They also met the Vice Chancellor and had a discussion with him.



Ph.D. AT SASTRA

The following faculty members of SASTRA obtained their Ph.D. Degrees



Dr. S.M.Girirajkumar

Senior Assistant Professor, School of EEE
 Title: Controller Tuning for Various Process Systems using Non-traditional Optimization Techniques

Supervisor : Dr.N.Anantharaman, Professor of Chemical Engineering, NIT-Trichy



Dr. T.Rajaram

Senior Assistant Professor, School of Civil Engineering

Title : Enhancement of Environmental Impact Assessment in India through Integrated Assessment and Simulation of Sustainability Linkages

Supervisor : Dr.Asuthosh Das



Dr. S.Vaidhyasubramaniam

Dean, Planning & Development

Title : A Critical and Analytical Study of M.B.A. Education in India

Supervisor : Dr.C.Besant Raj,

D.B.A. (Harvard), CEO & Managing Director, Besant Raj International Limited



Dr. K.Ramkumar

Senior Assistant Professor, School of EEE

Title : Advanced Control Schemes for Machine Directional Paper Machine Models

Supervisor : Dr.A.Ramkalyan, Asst.Prof. I.C.E.Department, NIT– Trichy.



Dr. V.Rajeshkumar

Title : Remote sensing and GIS in land use change detection for the coastal stretch from Tharangambadi to Kollidam Mouth, Nagapattinam District, Tamilnadu.

Supervisor : Dr.G.Victor Rajamanickam



Dr. G.Hariharan

Assistant Professor, School of H&S

Title : Haar Wavelet Solutions for a few Reaction-Diffusion Problems

Supervisor : Dr. K. Kannan, Dean, Humanities & Sciences, SASTRA



Dr. R.Ravi

Assistant Professor, School of Education, Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre

Title : Men in Anita Desai's Perspective
 Supervisor : Prof. K.G.Seshadri

Dr.K.Narasimhan, Asst. Professor, School of Education, SRC, SASTRA received his Ph.D. from Alagappa University on 28th May, 2010 for his thesis entitled “Enhancing Academic Performance of Rural Girl Students in Learning Chemistry - An Experimental Study”.



Dr.K.Govindarajan, Assistant Professor, School of Education, SASTRA, obtained his Ph.D. Degree from Alagappa University, Karaikudi for his thesis “Emotional Intelligence, Aptitude and Achievement in Commerce of the Higher Secondary Students” in May 2010.

Shri G. Prabhakaran, Assistant Professor, Dept of Commerce and Management Studies, SRC was awarded Ph.D. for his thesis entitled “A Study of The Functional Evaluation of Sarvodaya Sanghs in Thanjavur District” at a public viva-voce examination held at Bharathidasan University, Trichy on 2nd August 2010.



Shri A. Ramesh Babu, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, SRC was awarded Ph.D. by Bharathidasan University for his thesis entitled “Finite Element Methods for Singularly Perturbed Convection Diffusion and Reaction Diffusion Problems with Boundary and Interior Layers” on 22nd April 2010.



FOOT BALL GRASS COURT

A Football Grass Court has been developed at SASTRA Campus at a cost of Rs. 55 lakhs. The foot ball field has been created measuring 102 / 66 metres covered with natural Korean grass. A ten-feet high chain-link fence has been provided all round the pitch.



LAURELS IN BODY BUILDING COMPETITION

SASTRA's Best Physique team won the team championship Runner-up trophy in the "Mr. Thanjavur – 2010" Body Building Championship held on 1st August 2010 at Patteeswaram, Kumbakonam. The following were the winners:

Chi. D. Premkumar – II MBA – Gold Medal

Chi V. Ashok Raj – III EEE – Silver Medal

Chi C. Vinoth – III IT, SRC, - Silver Medal'

Chi. K. Ramesh – IV MCT – Bronze Medal



MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The V. Surana & Surana International Minority Rights Moot Court Competition was jointly hosted by A.K.K. New Law Academy, Pune



between 17th and 19th September, 2010. The team from the School of Law consisted of

- 1) Kum. S.Aishwarya (V Sem B.A,LLB)
- 2) Chi. Puneeth .K.G (III Sem B.A,LLB)
- 3) Kum. Kripa.R (V Sem B.A,LLB)

The team got a special mention award for spirited participation.

The First National Trial Advocacy and Judgment Writing Competition 2010 (Nyayavalokam -2010) was organized and hosted by S.V.K.M's Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mumbai between 17th and 19th September, 2010. The following students of School of the Law, SASTRA participated in the competition:

1. Kum. Bharathi .R. (V Sem. , B. A., L.L.B)
2. Kum. Smrithi Srivatsan (V Sem. , B. A., L.L.B)
3. Chi. Sathishprem S. R. Raghuvardan
(III Sem. , B. A., L.L.B)
4. Chi. Nikhil Berny (III Sem. , B. A., L.L.B)

Kum. R. Bharathi was adjudged the Best Judgment Writer in the competition.

LAURELS IN CULTURAL CONTEST

Chi. M. Ramakrishnan, III B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering secured the first position in the Instrumental – Violin Event of the 10th All India BSNL Cultural Meet organized by the Himachal Pradesh Circle Sports and Cultural Board from 23rd to 26th September, 2010 at Shimla.



He also won the second prize in the senior violin contest held by the Rasika Ranjana Sabha, Trichy, in June, 2010.

SASTRA BHOJANASHALA AT SRI VIJAYEENDRA THEERTHA SWAMIGAL MUTT

SASTRA University constructed a Bhojanashala, at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs at Sri Vijayeendra Theertha Swamigal Mutt, Kumbakonam. The Bhojanashala was declared open by Shri M.N. Venkatachalaiah, Former Chief Justice of India on 10th July 2010. Arrangements have been made to provide free meals to the devotees on all Thursdays and on Dwadhasi days.



A view of the Bhojanashala

SASTRA DONATES TO NAGORE DARGAH

SASTRA University donated Rs. 1.00 lakh to the Nagore Dargah. Nagore Dargah, near Nagapattinam is one of the famous Dargahs in India. Annual Kandoori Festival is conducted at the Dargah to celebrate the death anniversary of Syed Abdul Kathir Nayagam who is fondly called Nagore Andavar. SASTRA donated Rs. 1.00 lakh and handed over the cheque to Mr. Mohamed Kaliba, Executive Officer, with a request to spend the money for providing Annadhanam on the days of the Kandoori Festival held on 24th & 25th May, 2010.

SASTRA'S DONATION TO CHURCHES

Based on the request of Mr. L. Sebastian, a driver with SASTRA for the last 20 years, the University is donating Rs. 50,000 to the "Our Lady of Refugee's Church" in Periyavarseeli village at Lalgudi, Trichy. This is for the renovation work to be completed at the Church. In addition, the University has also constructed a compound wall at a cost of Rs. 75,000/- at St. Antony's Church at Tirumalaisamudram village, near SASTRA.

SRI MOOLA RAMA POOJA

His Holiness Shri Suyateendra Teertha Swamiji of Sri Raghavendra Swamy Matha Manthralayam performed Sri Moola Ram Pooja at SASTRA Campus on July 13 & 14, 2010. Staff and students of SASTRA and a large number of devotees in around Thanjavur participated in the pooja and received blessings.



TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATED

The School of Education, SRC, Kumbakonam celebrated Teachers' Day on 5th September 2010 at Rt. Hon'ble V.S. Srinivasa Sastri Hall. Pulavar Mamani Shri Tamizhcheranaar graced the occasion as the Chief guest. Major A. Balasubramanian, Principal, School of Education who presided over the function enlisted the qualities of a good teacher. He appealed to the teacher trainees to be conscious of their responsibilities to the society and nation. Shri Tamizhcheranaar in his key note address brought out the essential nobility in the relationship between teachers and students quoting profusely from Sangam literature. He also narrated stories and episodes drawn from the great epics of our nation - Ramayana and Mahabharatha to drive home his point that teachers should be selfless like the five elements of nature.

Nine veteran teachers were honoured with silver cups worth Rs.10,000 each. Dr. S. Seshadri, Dean Engineering, SRC and Prof. K.G.Ragunathan presented these cups to the veterans.



Teachers day at SASTRA (Main campus) was celebrated on 5th September, 2010. 100 B.Ed. teacher trainees of SASTRA B.Ed. programme (Distance Education) from Trichy, Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Thiruvarur and Nagapattinam Districts participated. Dr. N. Seshadri, Director Distance Education and Dr. S. Selvavinayagan and others spoke.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES @ SRC

The activities of GENE CHEM, the association of the Department of Chemistry and Bio Sciences were inaugurated on 17th September 2010 by Dr. M.P. Saravanan, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, K.A.P.V.



Government Medical College, Tiruchirapalli with a special lecture on “Inborn errors of metabolism – screening”. In his speech, he emphasized that the children with defects in metabolism should be given utmost care and their parents be given counselling regarding the severity of the disease. He further added that one of the most important duties of the students is to create awareness among the public regarding the errors of metabolism.

The activities of the COM-MAN forum, the association for the students of Commerce and Management Studies were inaugurated on 19th August 2010 by Shri R. Jayaraman, Senior Branch Manager, Bank of India, Kumbakonam. He spoke on “Success of Indian Banking System”.



The activities of ExACT, the students' association for excellence in Advanced Computing Technology were inaugurated by Shri K.N. Visveswaran, Chief Mentor, Hexavarsity, Hexaware Technologies Ltd., Chennai. He delivered a lecture on “Recent trends in Computing”.



ELCOM DAIS, the association for the students of Electronics and Communication Engineering was inaugurated by Shri

B.R.K. Varma, General Manager, Cauvery Asset, ONGC, Karaikal. He also released the newsletter of the forum called “ELCOM BUZZ”. Shri N. Raman, Deputy General Manager, ENTONGC- Cauvery Asset, Karaikal delivered a lecture on “Modern Trends in Communication at ONGC”.

SASTRA FACULTY AS LIEUTENANT



The grant of commission as Lieutenant has been accorded for officer cadet Shri T. Senthilnathan, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering with effect from 13th October 2009. The Regimental No. allotted for him is NCC/14110140.

NCC NEWS

The NCC Cadets along with Cadets of 8 (TN) Battalion NCC, Kumbakonam organized a Tree Planting programme at Srinagar Colony, Kumbakonam on 26th August, 2010. 100 Saplings were planted.



NSS NEWS

The NSS wings at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre organized a blood donation camp on 16th July, 2010. 120 units of blood was donated to the blood bank of District Headquarters, Govt. Hospital, Kumbakonam. Free Blood Group identification was also done as part of the camp.



A Blood donation camp was organized by the NSS units of SASTRA (Main campus) on 28th July, 2010. 75 students donated blood on the occasion. A team of Doctors headed by Dr. Radhika Maichel conducted the camp.

BLOOD DONATION CAMP

Lions Club of Thanjavur and Thanjavur Medical College Hospital conducted a Blood Donation Camp at Shanmugha Polytechnic College on 31st August 2010. About 100 NSS volunteers and 3 staff members donated blood. Certificates were distributed to all those who donated blood. The NSS Units of Shanmugha Polytechnic College made arrangements for the camp.



The NSS Units of Shanmugha Polytechnic celebrated 'NSS Day' on September 24, 2010. Prof. B. Venkatramani, Principal spoke on 'Yoga.' Shri. P. Balasubramanian and Shri. G. Saravanamurthy, Programme Officers participated.

LAURELS IN BASKET BALL

The basket ball team of Shanmugha Polytechnic College won the Inter - Polytechnic IPAA Trichy Division Inter-Polytechnic Basket Ball Tournament Shield at the Trichy Division Inter-Polytechnic Basket Ball Tournament held at MAM Polytechnic, Trichy on August 9, 2010. Our team is qualified to participate in the State level tournament to be held at Surya Polytechnic, Villupuram in December 2010.



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