



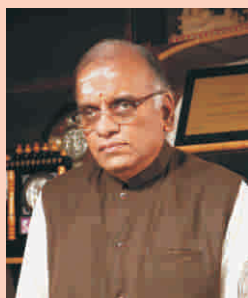
ITIHAS



(IT Is Happening At SASTRA)

Vol. 10 II Quarter 2010

Newsletter from SASTRA UNIVERSITY



Message from

VICE - CHANCELLOR

SASTRA University provides, as is well known, a definite and manifold advantage to its wards, especially to the students of B.Tech. courses.

SASTRA has introduced innovative curricular interventions such as integrated and collaborative degree programmes and choice-based credit system (CBCS). SASTRA is also known for its transparent and merit-based admission system and has won public acclaim as it admits 70% of the students based on normalized +2 marks and the remaining 30% of students are sent by the MHRD through the AIEEE. The CBCS system gives the students the opportunity to select from a portfolio of courses, which are designed under three different heads. Every student has to register for the core courses (60%) and the remaining courses are offered as department electives (30%) and open electives (10%).

The students also have the opportunity to finish the B.Tech. course work in 3½ years through an accelerated course registration system resulting in the entire VIII Semester for meaningful internship. This unique opportunity has resulted in SASTRA being able to send the maximum number of students under the Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS) fellowships for the last two years. The Semester Abroad Programme of SASTRA provides for SASTRA students to complete one semester course/research work at premier foreign universities. SASTRA has a research internship programme which enables students to undergo internship for one semester at MIT-Harvard. All these measures enhance the global mobility of the students and make Indian engineering education transcend national boundaries.

This issue of ITIHAS offers a rich variety of events of the quarter. Notably, the Silver Jubilee Valedictory function addressed by Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Advisor to Govt. of India, IX University Day and Sports Day.

The SASTRA counselling for B.Tech admission was held from June 21 –24, 2010. The high quality of education that we offer is evidenced by the quality rush for admission to SASTRA. I wish all our freshmen a bright and prosperous future.

Prof. R. Sethuraman
Vice-Chancellor

SASTRA SILVER JUBILEE VALEDICTORY FUNCTION

The Silver Jubilee Valedictory function of SASTRA University was held on April 16, 2010. Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India & DAE-Homi Bhabha Chair Professor, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre delivered the valedictory address and launched various schemes for Staff and Students.

Delivering the valedictory address Dr. Chidambaram said: “The border between science and technology is disappearing and there is a synergy between them to address important problems of both science and society with the preferred combination of relevance and excellence.” He explained the need for basic research and pre-competitive applied research to address generic problems in the society/industry and the Government of India is prepared to partner in such initiatives. While research adds something new to the existing body of knowledge, innovation adds economic and social value to the new - found knowledge. He wanted both to gain prestige as well as prosperity.

Dr. Chidambaram encouraged students and faculty not only to be researchers but also to be innovators by working on existing knowledge and improve the quality of life. Industry and institutions must come together and



Dr. R. Chidambaram lighting the traditional lamp



Dr. R. Chidambaram delivering the Silver Jubilee valedictory address

recognize their indigenous strengths and leverage on the collaborative strength. He cited the government initiatives like TIFAC, RuTAG, CAR, etc., that promote such interactions. He concluded his speech with a 3-phase strategy: optimally using visible capabilities; identifying and stimulating latent capabilities and leveraging international collaboration to fill our knowledge gaps.

He congratulated SASTRA on the achievements it has made in teaching, research and social development. He formally launched six Silver Jubilee Schemes for faculty and students.

Earlier Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, welcomed the gathering.

Silver Jubilee Souvenirs by way of gold coins were presented to the senior most staff members of SASTRA.



A senior faculty is receiving the Silver Jubilee Souvenir



Donating computer to a school

SASTRA SILVER JUBILEE SCHEMES

SASTRA-Industry Chair Professorship Scheme: SASTRA has identified 16 faculty members with Ph.D. to conduct research with a seed money of Rs. one lakh per year for three years resulting in publications of papers in international journals of repute. The following organizations have come forward to extend their support in the initiative. L&T ECC, Ramco Cements, Lucas TVS, Ashok Leyland, Sundaram Finance on behalf of Brakes India, Reliance Infocom, Symphony Services, Seshasayee Paper & Boards, TATA Consultancy Services, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Indian Overseas Bank, City Union Bank, Orchid Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals, Jubilant Organosys, Deakin University, Australia and JEOL Ltd. The Management has created an endowment of Rs. Two crore for the scheme.

SASTRA-Faculty Research and Development Scheme: SASTRA has always encouraged on-campus research and in continuation of its efforts has launched this scheme. Every qualified teaching faculty is awarded a research incentive of Rs. one lakh every year for a period of six years within which each faculty member is expected to publish a minimum of three papers in SCI Index Journal or successfully guide two Ph.D. scholars. At the end of six years, the faculty's performance will be reviewed and the research incentive will be continued to another block period of six years and the same process will be repeated. In addition to this, faculty members are encouraged to submit research proposals to various funding agencies. On successful sanction, 10 % of the sanctioned amount received will be awarded to the faculty members for their efforts to generate research funding from other funding agencies.

Desh-Videsh SASTRA Scheme: SASTRA encourages its students to visit foreign universities and research organizations to complete course work or research as part of their B.Tech. Curriculum. To encourage students to work in reputed universities and organizations, the SASTRA Desh-Videsh Scheme provides a monthly stipend of USD 200 and a round trip economy air fare for the selected students. The Management has created an endowment of Rs. one crore for this scheme.

SASTRA Teaching Assistantship Scheme: Less than 1% of the successful Post-graduate engineering students enroll for Ph.D. programmes in various institutions in India. To encourage research and attract young scholars to pursue their Ph.D., SASTRA has launched the

Teaching Assistantship Scheme with a corpus fund of Rs.2.50 crore, wherein candidates will be admitted to the Ph.D. programme at SASTRA with a monthly stipend of Rs.10,000 upto a maximum of Rs.14,000 irrespective of external funding. This is done with a hope to attract young minds to pursue Ph.D. at SASTRA.

SASTRA Silver Jubilee Local Students' Scholarship Scheme: SASTRA has been responsive to the needs of the students in Trichy and Thanjavur districts. It has allotted 10 % of the total seats to each of the districts to students who have studied Std X and +2 in the respective districts. In addition, SASTRA is pleased to offer full tuition fee waiver to the top two students from both Trichy and Thanjavur and one student from Kumbakonam. Their entire tuition fee for their B.Tech. programme at SASTRA will be offered as scholarship. A corpus fund of Rs.1.50 crore is being created for this scheme.

SASTRA Silver Jubilee Pension Scheme: In an effort to provide benefits to the teaching and non-teaching staff, SASTRA is already providing the Gratuity and Medical Insurance Benefits to its employees. The medical Insurance Scheme of Rs. Three lakhs covers the members, their spouse and two children. In addition to the Pension Scheme, the faculty members, after their retirement, are eligible to get pension benefits with an option to avail as monthly, annual or one time payment basis.

SASTRA has donated one computer each for the benefit of the students at the secondary schools, situated in the nearby villages of Tirumalaisamudram, Vallampudur, Kurvadipatti and Nattani.

SILVER JUBILEE CASH AWARDS TO MAINTENANCE STAFF

Cash incentive to the tune of Rs.5.08 lakhs were distributed to the entire maintenance staff of SASTRA University in view of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. Cash awards ranging from Rs. 20,000 to 1,000 were given to 130 workers. Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, P&D, Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Sponsored Research and Prof. R. Kandaswamy distributed the awards on April 15, 2010.



SASTRA - INDUSTRY CHAIR PROFESSORS





IX UNIVERSITY DAY

The IX University Day of SASTRA was celebrated on 10th April 2010. Dr. W. Selvamurthy, Scientist & Chief Controller (R&D) and HR, Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), New Delhi, was the chief guest. In his address, Dr. Selvamurthy said that the service sectors in the country make immense contribution to India's overall GDP growth. Science and technology (S&T) has transformed India from the stage of a begging bowl to a basket of bread.



Our Vice-Chancellor presenting a memento to Dr. Selvamurthy

Now India is able to feed the 100 crore population. India has done well in the green revolution, food revolution, and white revolution. The country could also do well in IT and nano revolution because of its power on the application of S&T in these areas. India is emerging well in the knowledge era. But in the next 50 years she must take the top-notch position in the leadership era. He urged the students to take up core technology areas instead of seeking jobs in the service sectors. DRDO is spending Rs. 10,000 crore every year for research on S&T and out of which it extends 10 per cent to the universities towards extramural research.

Dr. Selvamurthy complimented SASTRA University for the excellent job accomplished in the last 25 years. Now the university has to set a road map for the next 25 years for a new arena of accomplishments in its goal to attain the status of an international centre of excellence. He commended the management of SASTRA for the tremendous infrastructure, huge investments in R&D, and the amazing growth it has made especially in the last decade.



Dr. Selvamurthy presenting the best outgoing student award to Chi. R. Ganesh

He also commended the input and output ratio of SASTRA's investments and publication and patent ratio. Dr. Selvamurthy said that DRDO is looking for a better partnership with SASTRA. He praised the University for its Intensive Research Programmes in the fields like drug delivery and herbal medicine. SASTRA should address the needs of the society like health, energy and water security by researching on these areas. Science must transform into technology and technology must transform into product. SASTRA should concentrate on these areas, he said.

Dr. Selvamurthy presented the Kamakoti award to Chi. G Arvind, B Tech final year mechanical engineering, for his overall excellence in academic, sports and co-curricular activities. He also distributed other special awards to the outstanding students.

Prof. R. Sethuraman, VC, presented the annual report for 2009-10. Earlier Chi. R Ganesh, Chairperson of the Students Forum welcomed the gathering, while Kum. K Nisha, Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

SPORTS DAY

Noted athlete and Arjuna awardee Padmasri Mrs. Shiny Wilson, in her keynote address at the 26th Sports Day Celebrations of SASTRA on 5th April 2010, stressed the importance of hard work to come up in life. She also Wilson recalled her own experience in this connection.

Mrs. Wilson said: "I used to run a distance of 15 to 20 kms every day, I practised for four hours in the morning and four hours in the evening. I made up my mind to participate in Olympics at one point of time. As I followed my decision with hard work, I could succeed." She later distributed prizes to winners in various events of FUERA-2010, the Annual Sports event of SASTRA. Chi. A. Silambarasan of Green House bagged the Individual Championship for Men and



Mrs. Shiny Wilson presenting the overall championship

Kum. T.M. Divya of I B.Tech Civil the individual championship for women. Overall championship went to Red House.

Dr. S. N. Srivastava, Registrar and Dr V. Badrinath, Dean (i/c) Training & Placement, SASTRA University, Thanjavur, participated.

Mr. SASTRA 2010

Weight lifting, power lifting and Best Physique (Mr.SASTRA 2010) competitions were held on 3rd April 2010. The following were the winners of the events.

- MR. SASTRA2010 – Chi. V.Ashok Raj – II ECE
- Best Poser 2010 - Chi K.Ramesh - III MCT
- Best Lifter 2010 - Chi L.Ragunathan - VMCT
- Strong Man 2010 - Chi C.Vimal - II Chem



SASTRA COUNSELLING FOR B.TECH. ADMISSION

The counselling for admission to B.Tech programmes of SASTRA University for the year 2010-11 was held from June 21st to 24th, 2010. Over 4,000 students had been called for counselling for admission to over 1,200 seats at the University.

Kum. TN S. Namitha who secured 99.09 percentile, was the first candidate admitted this year. She has chosen the ECE discipline. Shri Jayaprakash Gandhi, a noted career consultant handed over the admission letter to Kum.Namitha. Speaking on the occasion, Shri. Gandhi appreciated the transparent and merit-based admission system of the University. He advised the students not to develop their knowledge alone but also apply the same using their intelligence with right attitude.



Shri Jayaprakash Gandhi handing over the first admission letter to Kum. T.N.S. Namitha

70 per cent of the seats were filled up after following the normalization process. The remaining seats were filled up based on AIEEE ranks. During the inaugural session of the counselling the Founder chancellor Scholarship was awarded to Chi. N Marimuthu, who emerged as the topper from Nannilam Board Higher Secondary School. A special scholarship for Shanmugha Polytechnic student Kum. Mahalakshmi, who scored 90 percent in SSLC, was offered considering her background.

For both these students the entire tuition fee and hostel fee will be waived.

This year the usual procedure of reserving 10 percent of seats each to Trichy and Thanjavur students continued.

Full tuition fee waiver as scholarship was awarded to the top five students who joined SASTRA University. Two students each from Trichirapalli and Thanjavur and one student from Kumbakonam were selected for this scheme part of Silver Jubilee initiative.

SASTRA ALUMNI GETS V RANK IN CIVIL SERVICE EXAM.



Shri K.B.Sivakumar, son of Shri K.Baskaran, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Karur, who did his B.Tech in Electrical and Electronics Engineering at SASTRA during 2003-2007 has come out with flying colours in the recent Indian Administrative Services

Examinations (IAS). He got fifth rank at the State-level and 38th rank at All India level. He is currently undergoing training in Indian Railways at Lucknow. Vice-Chancellor Prof.R.Sethuraman congratulated Shri Sivakumar for his feat.

Over 12,000 applications were received from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand, Delhi, Kolkata, UP, Rajasthan, Goa, Assam, etc. The Plus-Two marks were normalised to bring all students to the same level of comparison and the rank list was released based on the normalised scores. The entire admission process followed was transparent and based on merit.

COUNSELLING AT SRC

Counselling for admission into various B.Tech. programmes and M.Tech. Integrated programmes for 2010 - 11 at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, Kumbakonam was held on 5th July 2010.

A merit list of the 900 applications received was drawn based on normalisation process as against the available 360 seats in ECE, CSE, EEE and 24 seats in the M.Tech. integrated programme in Communication Systems and Power Electronics.

Dr. S. Seshadri, Dean Engg. SRC, handed over the first admission card to Chi. Gyana Pradeep from Narayana Junior College, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.

SASTRA B.TECH. STUDENTS SELECTED AT HARVARD & MIT LABS

Chi. Shyam Srivats, Kum. Banupriya Sridharan, Kum. Dharini Iyer, Kum. S. Rukmani, Chi. Jawahar Koppam, Kum. Shwetha Murali, Chi. Aditya Kashayap V. Ramana, Chi. Ushashi Chand Dodhwal, Chi. Suseendar, Kum. Niveditha Vatsangam, final year B.Tech students from the School of Biotechnology, SASTRA successfully completed their internship at the Health Science & Technology Lab at Harvard Medical School and MIT. All of them had been offered Research Assistantship for a period of one year beginning August 2010, under the guidance of world-renowned scientists. Their achievements demonstrate the quality of research internship and reflect the opportunity provided by SASTRA.



CUB ATM AT SASTRA



The City Union Bank (CUB) opened its ATM facility at SASTRA University campus on 23rd June 2010. Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor inaugurated the facility in the presence of Shri R. Mohan, General Manager Credits, CUB. Shri S.Sekar, General Manager, Developments and HR, Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Sponsored Research, Shri Ramakrishnan, Chief Manager, CUB, Thanjavur Branch and others participated in the function. Earlier Shri. Balasubramaniam, Asst. General Manager, Developments welcomed the gathering.

Already a full-fledged branch of IOB with two ATMs is functioning in the campus.

SASTRA SPONSORS PRE-COUNSELLING SESSION/EDUCATION EXPO

THE HINDU EDUCATION PLUS PRE-COUNSELLING SESSION

SASTRA University, as the title sponsor, presented the second edition of The Hindu Education Plus Pre-Counselling Session at Hotel Femina, Trichy on 8th May 2010. The day-long session featured eminent educationists who elaborated on the latest trends in the dynamic and ever-evolving scenario of higher education. The Vice-Chancellor of Indian Maritime University, Dr. P. Vijayan, spoke on 'Opportunities in Maritime Sector' and Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development, SASTRA University, made a presentation on 'Engineering – The Path to Success.'



Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam on "Engineering - The Path to Success"

General Counselling was given by Shri A. Jayaprakash Gandhi, Career Consultant and Analyst while Shri Lena Tamizhvaanan, journalist, gave a motivational training.

Replete with lectures on career options, motivational training and seminar on employability, the pre-counselling session was designed to enlarge the students' perspective about higher education.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS – DINAMANI EDUCATION EXPO

SASTRA was the co-sponsor in The New Indian Express – Dinamani Education Expo held at Bishop Heber Higher Secondary School, Trichy from April 9 – 12, 2010. The Expo provided to the students and their parents to have personal interaction with the providers of varied sources of knowledge and education. Dr. S. Vaithiyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, offered felicitations at the inaugural function of the Expo.

“Engineering – The Path to Success”

Speech by Dr.S. Vaidhyasubramaniam (Excerpts)

India is poised for accelerated progress on the fronts of Information Technology, manufacturing, infrastructure, biotechnology, retail sector, banking and finance, and tourism and hospital management in the coming decades, Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean-Planning & Development, SASTRA University, Thanjavur, said.

Speaking on 'Engineering – the Path to Success' at The Hindu Education Plus Pre-Counselling session Dr. Vaidhyasubramaniam said that the job opportunities being diversified, candidates opting for conventional programmes such as Mechanical, Civil, and Electrical and Electronics Engineering could be certain about securing gainful employment. Thirty-two per cent of jobs would be in the manufacturing sector, he said.

China and India were leading the world in global recovery of automobile industry. The 12% growth in the automobile sector was the highest in the world. As for Information Technology, the performances of major companies had exceeded the market estimates. Putting the best foot forward, the companies had raised expectations of large-scale recruitment.

Biotechnology was another area in which there were tremendous opportunities for growth since the expiry of patent durations for generic drugs was nearing and multi-national companies would obviously look to India for 30 to 40% cost-competitiveness in drug manufacture.

As of now, though the volume of manufacture in India accounts for 10% of global requirement, in terms of value, it is only 1.5%. There was a huge potential for increasing the value, he said while referring to the abundant job opportunities for candidates pursuing courses such as biotechnology, bioinformatics, bioengineering and nanotechnology.

A 66% addition of manpower was expected in the banking and financial sectors in the next three to four years.

As for the retail sector, in which India ranks fifth in the world, five million jobs would be generated in the next five years. India was moving in the direction of developing a workforce of 500 million by 2020.

WIPRO'S MISSION 10X AT SASTRA

SASTRA in continuation of its efforts to introduce novel initiatives has become the third institution in India to establish the Wipro Mission 10X Concept Centre in its Thanjavur campus.

Wipro's Mission 10X is a pioneering effort by Wipro Technologies to float faculty empowerment programme, which seeks to equip the faculty members in engineering colleges with new pedagogical techniques. These techniques as part of the relationship between industry and academia prepare the faculty members to implement learner-centric teaching methods and enhance the employability of the students. While announcing the establishment of, Mission 10X Concept Centre at SASTRA, on April 22, Dr. D. Selvan, Senior Vice-President -- Talent Transformation, Wipro Technologies, appreciated SASTRA for having come forward to join hands with WIPRO in the noble cause of improving the quality of engineering education in the country. Institutions should differentiate themselves from others by their innovation and core competency. Business houses are forced to explore newer methods to reduce the cost of production and service to meet the challenges forced by domestic and foreign competitors.

He acknowledged the initiatives taken by SASTRA in the past to introduce new methodologies and long lasting relationship that has blossomed between SASTRA and Wipro Technologies over a period of time. He expressed confidence in SASTRA's commitment to take forward the concept-centre and create empowered faculty members to train students who would be industry-ready.

Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, made a specific mention about Dr. Selvan's loyalty to Wipro for the past 18 years and expressed the hope that the faculty members of SASTRA would impart the same sense of loyalty to the students of SASTRA and that the students realize the value of loyalty while they join the workplace. He said employees should develop a sense of loyalty to the organization for their own as well as for the organization's growth. He suggested that the teacher is a builder of the knowledge-bridge and he or she should update his or her knowledge in a systematic way and Mission IOX promotes this idea. The establishment of the concept centre lends a helping hand to develop professionalism among teaching faculty and is timely

considering that there is a huge faculty crunch in Indian professional education, including the IITs.

He added that the student-teacher engagement must transcend conventional boundaries and Mission 10X addresses this issue at a very fundamental level. He also expressed the hope that the 25% employability factor as per the McKinsey - NASSCOM report is no longer true as we have taken positive strides between 2005 and today.

Prof R.Sethuraman and Dr Selvan signed an MoU and jointly announced the inauguration of Mission IOX Concept Centre at SASTRA. The centre will conduct faculty training for SASTRA and other engineering college faculties working in Trichy, Thanjavur and Pudukottai Districts in a phased manner.

Shri Veerendra Pillari Setty, Manager WIPRO 10X, welcomed the gathering consisting of faculty members from SASTRA, heads of institutions and directors from neighboring engineering colleges and participants of Wipro Mission 10X faculty empowerment programme.

Earlier, Shri Nagarjuna, GM, Wipro Mission 10X gave a presentation on the Mission 10X programme and Shri Sebi Kumar, Principal Consultant, Wipro, introduced the Unified Learning Kit, a new laboratory tool to be launched by Wipro shortly to improve the practical skills of engineering students. SASTRA will be deploying 40 ULKs at a cost of Rs.15 lakhs and integrate them in its existing B.Tech. curriculum which shall elevate the standards of laboratory teaching. This ULK is a collaborative effort of WIPRO and a few institutions, including SASTRA, in enhancing the learning experience by introducing innovative practices by upholding the spirit of 'learning by doing.' Dr. V. Badrinath, Dean, School of Management & Training and Placement, proposed a vote of thanks.



Launching of the Wipro Mission 10X Concept Centre at SASTRA

WIPRO MISSION 10X ADVANCED WORKSHOP

In continuation with the first level 5-day WIPRO MISSION 10X workshop, a Second Level – 2 day Advanced workshop for the same set of participants was conducted on the 7th and 8th June 2010. 20 faculty members from SASTRA UNIVERSITY participated in the workshop. Mr. Satheesh, WIPRO TECHNOLOGIES conducted the workshop.

ARM PROCESSOR WORKSHOP BY WIPRO MISSION 10X

WIPRO TECHNOLOGIES as part of the ULK Initiative conducted a two-day workshop on February 26 and 27 2010 on “Learning ARM Architecture with the background of 8085” for 19 SASTRA faculty members in ECE, EEE and CSE. Dr. Prakash Ramamurthy Senior Consultant, WIPRO Technologies conducted the Workshop.

WIPRO MISSION 10X WORKSHOP ATTENDED

Mr.V.Chandrasekar and Dr.Brinda, Asst. Professors from the Department of Training and Placement attended a 5-day workshop conducted by Wipro Mission 10X on High Impact Teaching Skills and Cambridge Certification from 15th to 19th June 2010 at VIT University, Vellore. They also acted as observers for a similar programme held at Jerusalem College of Engineering, Chennai from 28th June to 2nd July 2010.

WIPRO ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Dr.V.Badrinath, Dean-Training and Placement attended the Wipro Academic Leadership program in Wipro Tech Campus, Cochin on 8th July 2010.

DOT NET - TRAINING PROGRAM

ICT Academy of Tamil Nadu organised an intensive 8-day Faculty development program on “Dot Net Programming” in association with Microsoft Corporation and Cognizant Technology Solutions along with SASTRA from 19th to 26th June 2010 at SASTRA. 30 faculty members from 14 Colleges participated in the program including 5 faculty members from SASTRA.

Ms. R.Gayathri, Microsoft trainer acted as resource person. A deep insight into the subject including real time project application was taught. In the valedictory function held on 26th June 2010, Dr.V.Badrinath issued the certificates to participants.



Dr. Badrinath distributing the participation certificate

Dr.V.Badrinath in his valedictory address said that learning is a life-time process and as a faculty one should continuously learn and update his knowledge and skill to meet the growing expectations of the students and the corporate world. He also said that computer science is a dynamic subject and unless faculties update through these kind of workshops and training they will become obsolete.

SASTRA STAFF GETS 'USTAD BISMILLAH KHAN YUVA PURASKAR AWARD'



Shri S. Gopi, Junior Assistant, working in the School of Chemical & Technology, SASTRA University, Thanjavur, has been awarded the “Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar” for his talent in the field of major traditions of Theatre, Bhagavata Mela of Tamil Nadu. The Sangeeth Natak Akademi, National Academy of

Music, Dance and Drama, New Delhi, the apex body of performing arts in the country, has selected 32 artists of India who have made a mark as talented youths in their respective fields of performing arts for Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar 2009. The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, given to artistes below the age of 35 years, was introduced in the year 2006 with the objective of identifying and encouraging outstanding young talents in diverse fields of performing arts and for giving them national recognition early in their life so that they may work with greater commitment and dedication in their chosen fields.

The Management of SASTRA University congratulates Shri S. Gopi on his achievement and wishes him all success in the years to come. The Management has awarded him a cash prize of Rs.5,001/- in recognition of his getting the Puraskar Award.

BSNL LAUNCHES 3G MOBILE SERVICE AT SASTRA

BSNL 3G mobile service was launched at SASTRA on 11th June 2008, thus entering the next generation of mobile communications system.

With enhanced services like multimedia, high speed mobile broadband, Internet access with provisions to view video footage, the students and faculty with the 3G phones can access the 3G network to watch live video lectures, archived lectures on U-tube and other informative websites.



In addition to using this value-added service to support their academic pursuit, the 3G service at SASTRA will also enable users to make the usual voice call and messaging services with additional facilities like video, live streaming news, current affairs and other multimedia content.

Further, the data card on 3G service at 3.6 Mbps will make internet browsing an enjoyable experience for the students and faculty.

“The service is the first in an educational institution in Thanjavur district and we hope that the students and faculty will use this service in the most productive way” said Shri J. V. Raja Reddy, General Manager, BSNL, Thanjavur.

Dr. S Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development, Prof. S Ananthapadmanaban, Dean, Civil, Shri Ramachandra Iyer, DGM (Admin), Shri Irudhayaraj, DGM (Planning), Shri N. Nagaraj, DGM (Finance), BSNL and others were present.

SASTRA UNIVERSITY DOMINATES IBM'S THE GREAT MIND CHALLENGE - 2009

A team comprising III year B.Tech Computer Science Engineering students of SASTRA University emerged winners in the IBM The Great Mind Challenge (TGMC) for the year 2009. A total of 3 teams from SASTRA dominated the top 15 list. The winning team named “Stargazers” comprising Chi. Shyam Kiruba, Chi. Ashwin, Chi. Parthasarathy and Chi. Balakrishan along with their faculty mentor Prof. K.R Sekar walked away with the trophy. Each student was presented a *LENOVO* Laptop, Digital Camera and an award certificate in a glittering function held on 12th May, 2010 at Bangalore. The award winning project was in the area of Online Library Management. The awards were received by their parents as the students were in the midst of their end-semester examinations.



Dr. Y.S. Rajan handing over the special award to Dr. A. Umamaheswari

Over 2000+ teams from 1500 Colleges participated from all over India and TGMC 2009 has entered into Limca Book of records for this Software contest. IBM said that the quality of projects has been great and with so many excellent projects received, competition was fierce and the judges had a tough time selecting the best. The Awards were given by Dr. Y.S. Rajan, Principal Advisor, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) who appreciated the performance of the 3 teams of SASTRA. SASTRA had been associating with IBM in introducing two theory courses, organising expert lectures and Web Series lectures on SOA and Web 2.0.

Special awards were given to the remaining two teams from SASTRA along with a Drona Award for the faculty mentor. Another special award and a certificate were given to SASTRA and Dr.A.Umamakeswari, Associate Dean of School of Computing received it on behalf of SASTRA.

SASTRAns ALL THE WAY IN IAS 2010 FELLOWSHIP

30 B.Tech. students of SASTRA University have once again dominated the IAS Fellowship list for the 2010 summer internship stretching SASTRA's record to the fourth consecutive time for maximum number of students being selected from a single institution. They worked in premier research labs like IISc, Bangalore, NII, New Delhi, IIT Kharagpur for 6 to 8 weeks in the summer and had the opportunity to engage with top scientists on various research pursuits. The management congratulates the students and wishes them good luck.

SASTRA – AMITY MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD WORKSHOP

The Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, SASTRA, Kumbakonam and AMITY Centre for Olympiad, New Delhi jointly conducted a workshop on Mathematics Olympiad for training students drawn from the various states of India and abroad from 4th to 10th June, 2010 at AMITY University premises for the 5th consecutive year.



Dr.R.Srikanth and Dr.K.Kannan of the Mathematics Department of SASTRA University conducted the workshop. Parallel sessions were conducted for the seniors and juniors.

A one-day workshop for the Mathematics faculty of AMITY University was conducted on 7th June 2010 by these experts on “Research Initiatives for Faculty of Mathematics” at the same venue.

SUMMER PROGRAMME ON RESEARCH SCIENCE INITIATIVE

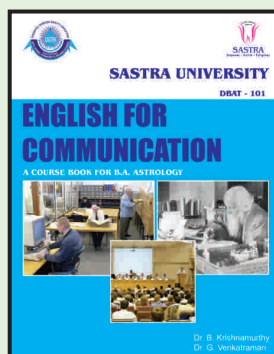
SASTRA University, I.I.T.-Chennai, and PSBB Group of Schools jointly conducted a month-long programme of Research Science Initiative at I.I.T., Chennai from 5th April to 4th June, 2010. The programme is meant to impress upon the young, inquisitive minds certain essential concepts of Science and the close links and inter-relationships of Science and Engineering subjects. The programme consisted of:

- (i) Lectures by experts on a number of selected Science topics,
- (ii) Special lectures by distinguished scientists,
- (iii) Visits to laboratories and institutions of special interest, and
- (iv) Projects

The following faculty from SASTRA acted as mentors and delivered lectures.

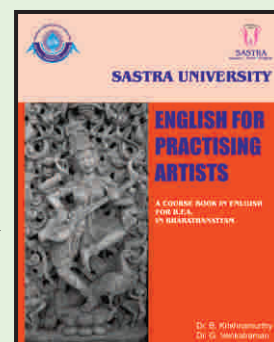
1. Dr.R. Srikanth on “Number Theory”
2. Dr.K. Kannan, on “Differential Equations and their Applications”
3. Dr. Uma Maheswari and Dr. Adline Princey on “Biology”.

SASTRA PUBLICATIONS



'English for Communication' and 'English for Practising Artists' are the two books published for the B.A. Astrology and B.F.A.(Bharathanatyam) courses respectively which are offered through distance mode. The books Edited by Dr. B. Krishnamurthy and

Dr. G. Venkatraman of the Department of English, SASTRA, written in the Self Instructional Material (SIM) pattern, cater to the specific communication needs of the practising astrologers and artists.



SASTRA PROFESSOR AT WORLD TAMIL CLASSICAL CONFERENCE



Dr. N. Seshadri, Director, Distance Education, SASTRA presented a paper titled “Cinematic Eye of Commercial Tamil Films” at the World Tamil Classical Conference held at Coimbatore. He presented the paper on 24th June 2010 at Nappoodhanar Arangam with Shri Amshan Kumar on the Chair at Codissia Campus. The paper is printed on page 839 of the special souvenir.

PAPER PRESENTATION CONTEST FOR B.Com. (CA) STUDENTS

SAHITHYA Association organized a paper presentation contest for the B.Com.(CA) students on the topic “Recent Trends in Global Business Environment” on 7th April 2010. Of the 23 papers presented, three were selected and awarded prizes. The association Staff Coordinator, Shri V.Vijay Anand coordinated the event. Dr. V.Badrinath Dean/SOM distributed the prizes.

Kum. R.Abirami won the I Prize and Kum. S. Raja Rajeswari and Kum. D. Krithika won the second and third prizes respectively.

90th RAMANUJAN REMEMBRANCE DAY

The 90th Ramanujan Remembrance Day was observed by SASTRA on 26th April 2010 at SRC . Marking the occasion, a one-day Symposium was organized by the Department of Mathematics.



Garlanding of the bust of Ramanujan

Dr.K.Kannan, Dean, Humanities and Sciences delivered a lecture on 'Essential Mathematics for Engineering Research'. Dr.M.Manickam, Vivekananda College, Chennai spoke on 'Ramanujan's Tau Functions.' Dr. R.Srikanth, Associate Dean, H&S, SASTRA spoke on 'Diophantine Equation.' Dr.K.Chandrasekara Rao, Head, Dept. of Mathematics, SRC welcomed the gathering and Dr. D. Narasimhan, Department of Mathematics, SRC proposed a vote of thanks.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

A two-day Faculty Development Programme on latest teaching methodology was organized for the faculty members of the Department of English on 30th June and 1st July 2010. Dr. R.V. Ram, Head of the Department of English conducted the programme.

ANNADHANAM TO VAITHEESWARAN KOIL PILGRIMS

Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre of SASTRA University at Kumbakonam arranged an annadhanam to the devotees of Vaitheeswaran Koil, who proceeded on a padayatra from various places to the temple. From a special pandal erected in front of the campus, fifteen thousand food packets each comprising a sweet and two variety rice and a water sachet, were distributed to the devotees on April 25, 2010. Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, SASTRA, Teaching and Non-teaching Staff, NSS cadets and NCC volunteers participated in the day-long annadhanam.



Distribution of food packets to the devotees

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AT SRC

Elcom DAIS, the Association of the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering organized a National Conference on Recent Trends in Communication (NCRTCE 2010) on 2nd April 2010. Shri K.M.Kannan, Sr.Manager, Siemens Enterprise Communion Pvt. Ltd Bangalore inaugurated the conference. Around 40 delegates participated in the conference and presented papers.

ELPOWER, the Association of Electrical and Electronics Engineering organized a guest lecture on 11th April 2010. Shri G.Karthikeyan, Executive Engineer, TNEB, (Operation 230 KV, substation) Kadalangudi delivered a lecture on 'Operation and Maintenance of 230 KV Substation'.

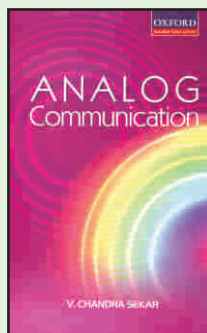


GENECHEM, the association of the Department of Chemistry and Bio Sciences organized BIOFEST 2010 an inter department technical fest on 1st April 2010. Contests in Paper Presentation, Poster Presentation, Quiz were held.

A free medical camp was also organized as part of the Fest in which Blood sugar, Hemoglobin tests were made for staff and students.



BOOK BY SASTRA FACULTY



Shri. V. Chandrasekar, Professor and Head, Department of Communication Engineering, SRC, SASTRA has authored a book entitled 'ANALOG Communications'. The book has been specially designed for the students of Electrical Engineering and Electronics and Communication Engineering. Oxford University Press, Chennai, published the book.

NCC NEWS

Combined Annual Training Camp

A combined annual training camp of NCC was held at SRC from 1st to 10th June 2010. 723 cadets from various colleges and schools attended the camp. 25 PI staff, 10 state Govt. staff, 15 ANOs and 1 Camp Commandant under various NCC units like 3 (TN) C TC Tech, 2 (TN) ARMD SQN, 4 (TN) Girls BN, 2 (TN) BN Trichy, 14 (TN) BN Dindugal, 9 (TN)



BN Karikudi, 34 (TN) INDEP COY, Thanjavur, and 8 (TN) BN Kumbakonam participated.. The cadets underwent training in physical drill, weapon drill, firing, obstacle crossing, map reading, field and battle craft etc. Some of the cadets were selected and trained for Republic Day camp at Delhi and Thal Sainik camp for the year 2011.

Laurels by SRC Cadets

CUO, S Purshothaman of II B Sc., (ECS) was made overall camp senior. CPL, G Sivasathya of II B Sc., (CCS) and CDT, T SaiRohith of I B. Tech (EEE) received special prizes. CPL P Swaminathan of II B Sc (ECS) received a special prize for RP duty.

The Sr. Division cadets of the NCC Unit attended a shooting practice campaign organized by 8(TN) BN NCC at Govt. Arts College, Kumbakonam from 5th to 11th May 2010. One of our cadets Chi. C. Nagarajan was selected to participate in Zonal shooting coaching camp held at Kandasamy Kandar College, Parmathivelore from 4th to 13th June 2010.

Inter Unit Competition Camp

Six Sr. Division boys and two Sr. Wing girls participated in the inter unit competition camp held at NIT, Trichy from 11th to 20th June 2010. LCPL G. Thyagarajan received a medal for his drill skills and was selected for the Republic Day selection camp to be held at Raja Sarfoji college, Thanjavur from 3rd to 12th July, 2010.



AWARD FOR SASTRA PROFESSOR



Prof. K.Chandrasekhara Rao, Head of the Department of Mathematics, SRC received the best Citizens of India Award 2010 for his outstanding contributions in the field of teaching of Mathematics at Post Graduation Level for 42 years. The award was given by International Publishing House to eminent Indians in various walks of life. Dr. K Chandrasekhara Rao has published more than 100 articles in reputed journals and has guided 25 Ph.D. scholars.

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN MANUSCRIPTOLOGY

A certificate course in Manuscriptology was conducted at SRC from 2nd to 10th May, 2010. The history of ancient manuscripts, their importance, methods of reading and editing were taught to students of Veda schools at Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, and Kalancheri. Dr K Krishnamachari, Bharathiyar Institute, Pondicherry, Dr. S.Padmanathan, Reader in Sanskrit, Madras University and Dr.N. Kannan, Professor of Mathematics, SASTRA were the resource persons.



CERTIFICATE COURSE IN FUNCTIONAL ENGLISH

A certificate course in Functional English was organized by Department of English from 2nd to 15th June 2010 for a batch of I B.Tech students. This practical course trained the students to communicate in real life situations like interview, debate and public speaking. The course also focused on body language, error correction and pronunciation. Dr.R.V.Ram, Head of the Department of English, SRC coordinated the programme in which the faculty of English, SRC and Dr.G.Venkatraman, Sr. Asst. Prof. of English of the Main Campus, were the resource persons.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**26th INTER UNIVERSITY
SOUTH ZONE YOUTH FESTIVAL 2010**

August 21-25, 2010



Organized by:
SASTRA UNIVERSITY



In collaboration with
ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES (AIU)

Financed by:
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COLOSSEUM 2010

**National Level Inter Collegiate
Sports Fest**

August 22-25, 2010

For Details:

www.sastra.edu

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Empower • Enrich • Enlighten

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