



# ITI HAS

(IT Is Happening At SASTRA)



Newsletter from SASTRA UNIVERSITY

Vol. 11

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2011



*Message from*

## VICE - CHANCELLOR

Let me first begin by wholeheartedly thanking the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for taking necessary steps resulting in the issue of Tamil Nadu State G.O. recognising the

SASTRA University B.Ed. (Distance Mode) equivalent to the B.Ed. offered by recognized Tamil Nadu State Universities. I also thank the officials concerned in the Department of Higher & School Education.

SASTRA feels proud of the quality and need-based instruction and training imparted to its students. Because of such good work, 2420 students of the 2012 batch have gained placement in top-ranking companies, this year. This achievement is in no small measure due to our constant interactions with the industry and updating of our curriculum to equip our students with industry-ready competencies. I thank the companies for their continuous support in this regard.

The academic year began with a bang with Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India delivering the XXV Convocation Address on August 6, 2011. He urged the young graduates to break the barriers of impossibilities and strive towards distinguished performances, rather than remain reconciled to ordinary life. He set a roll call of honour, by enumerating the achievements of Sir C.V. Raman, Dr. Vikram Sarabai, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Dr. Varghese Kurien, Shri Jamshedji Tata, Shri Srinivasa Ramanujan, Dr. Chandrasekar and others. On the occasion, SASTRA, in appreciation of his multi-faceted, devoted service to the country, conferred on him the Doctor of Science (honoris causa).

During the quarter, the International Conference on Functional Nanomaterials (ICFN 2011) was held between September 23 - 25, 2011. National level technical festivals were organized by the Schools of Civil and Mechanical Engineering. The Knowledge Leadership Forum organized a series of lectures on emerging trends in various fields. Schools are vying with one another in organizing programmes to facilitate the all-round development of the learners. The Youth Conference on Swami Vivekananda held at SASTRA on September 24, 2011 as part of the nation's celebrations of his 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary contributed to enrich the emotional quotient of our learners. The present issue carries reports of all these and many more.

*Prof. R. Sethuraman*  
Vice-Chancellor

## MEETING WITH HON'BLE CM



Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, SASTRA meeting the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, along with Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development, on September 29, 2011 at the Secretariat.

## XXV CONVOCATION

The XXV Convocation of SASTRA University was held on August 6, 2011. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India delivered the Convocation Address and awarded the degrees. Delivering the convocation address Dr. Kalam said that the development of nanotechnology applications in health care needs to be utilized to develop nano-robots for cancer cure and nano-drug delivery systems for HIV.



A graduate receives the degree form Dr. Abdul Kalam

Stressing on the need for interdisciplinary research, Dr. Kalam highlighted the combined synergies from the nano-bio-info revolution and the need for intelligent bio-science using nano-robots and nano-drug delivery systems.



He called upon the students to innovate and change for betterment and develop the spirit of hard work and endurance to break the barriers of impossibilities.

Dr. Kalam charted a 10-point agenda for the country's development that included governance, role of ICT, self-reliance and food and economic security and stressed on the need for systems design, implementation and management for an enlightened citizenship.

Dr. Kalam urged the young Indian professionals to develop a unique identity for themselves and contribute to the growth of the nation.

Dr. Kalam quoted examples of role models like Sir CV Raman, Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Dr. Homi Babha, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan and E. Sreedharan and inspired the students to learn lessons from their personal achievements.

Dr. Kalam awarded degrees to over 2,600 graduates. Dr. S. Anuradha was awarded the Chancellor's Medal and



Our Vice-Chancellor awards D.Sc. (*honoris causa*) to Dr. Kalam cash prize of Rs. 50,000 for the best Ph.D. thesis work on developing 3-D nano-scaffolds for neural regeneration.

Prof. R.Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, welcomed the gathering. Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean, Sponsored Research and Director, CeNTAB read out the citation and presented Dr. Kalam with a memento.

Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, Prof. R. Kandasamy, Chancellor and others participated. Dr. M. Vijayalakshmi, Associate Dean, School of Chemical and Biotechnology proposed a vote of thanks.

#### **Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) to Dr. Kalam**

On the occasion, Dr. Kalam was conferred with the Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) degree for his outstanding scientific leadership, public intellectualism and statesmanship.



## DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (honoris causa) to Dr. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM CITATION

Born on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1931 at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu, Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, graduated in Science from St. Joseph's College, Trichy in 1954 and specialized in Aeronautical Engineering from Madras Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1957. Dr. Kalam is a pioneer in fibre glass technology and led a young team to initiate this effort in ISRO from design, development leading to production of composites rocket motor cases. Dr. Kalam made significant contribution as Project Director to develop India's first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-3), which successfully injected the Rohini satellite in the near earth orbit in July 1980 and made India an exclusive member of Space Club. He was responsible for the evolution of ISRO's launch vehicle programme, particularly the PSLV configuration. After working for two decades in ISRO and mastering launch vehicle technologies, Dr. Kalam took up the responsibility of developing Indigenous Guided Missiles at Defence Research and Development Organisation as the Chief Executive of Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP). He was responsible for the development and operationalisation of AGNI and PRITHVI Missiles and for building indigenous capability in critical technologies through networking of multiple institutions. One of his significant contributions was creating Research Centre Imarath for Advanced Technologies. He was the Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister and Secretary, Department of Defence Research & Development from July 1992 to December 1999. During this period he led the weaponisation of strategic missile systems and the Pokhran II nuclear tests in collaboration with Department of Atomic Energy, which made India a nuclear weapon State. He also gave thrust to self-reliance in defence systems by progressing multiple development tasks and mission projects such as Light Combat Aircraft.

As Chairman of Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) and as an eminent scientist, he led the country with the help of 500 experts to arrive at Technology Vision 2020 giving a road map for transforming India from the present developing status to a developed nation. Dr. Kalam has served as the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, in the rank of Cabinet Minister, from November 1999 to November 2001 and was responsible for evolving policies, strategies and missions for many development applications. Dr. Kalam was also the Chairman, Ex-officio, of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet and piloted India Millennium Mission 2020.

In the bio-medical area, Dr. Kalam along with his team collaborated with medical specialists in the development of Kalam-Raju stent during 1994-96. Kalam-Raju cardiac stent after trials has been fitted to many needy patients and this development has further led to the creation of a production unit of state-of-the-art stents. In 1995-96, he had initiated the use of carbon-carbon and carbon-polymer materials for production of floor reaction orthosis calipers, which has reduced the weight of the caliper to 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the original and over 50,000 children have been fitted with these calipers.

Dr. Kalam took up academic pursuit as Professor, Technology & Societal Transformation at Anna University, Chennai from November 2001 and was involved in teaching and research. Above all he took up a mission to ignite the young minds for national development by meeting school students across the country. During the last decade, Dr. Kalam has addressed over five million youth below the age of 17 and

inspired them to become an active participant of India Vision 2020 and has addressed several children science congresses across the country.

Dr. Kalam is passionate about bringing rural prosperity through PURA (Providing Urban Amenities to Rural Areas), in which science and technology has to play a key role. Based on his diverse experience he has been propagating the concept of World Knowledge Platform through which the core competencies of organizations and nations can be synergized to innovate and create solutions and products for the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In his literary pursuit Dr. Kalam authored a number of books, such as "Wings of Fire", "India 2020 - A Vision for the New Millennium", "My journey" and "Ignited Minds - Unleashing the power within India", "Indomitable Spirit", "Guiding Soul", "Envisioning an Empowered Nation", "Inspiring Thoughts", "Children Ask Kalam", "You are born to blossom", "Family and the Nation", "Life Tree" and "The Luminous Sparks" a collection of his poems. Many of them have become household names in India and among the Indian nationals abroad and these books have been translated into many Indian and foreign languages.

Dr. Kalam is one of the most distinguished scientists of India with the unique honour of receiving honorary doctorates from 41 universities and institutions from India and abroad. The Honorary Doctorates include, Nyenrode Business University, Netherlands; Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA; University of Wolverhampton, UK; University of Kentucky, USA; Oakland University, Michigan, USA; and the University Sans Malaysia, Malaysia.

Dr. Kalam has been awarded with the coveted civilian awards - Padma Bhushan (1981) and Padma Vibhushan (1990) and the highest civilian award Bharat Ratna (1997). He is a recipient of several other awards and Fellow of many professional institutions. International recognition include "King Charles II Medal" for Science and Technology in October 2007 by the Royal Society, Woodrow Wilson Award in 2008, International Medal 2008 by the Royal Academy of Engineering, London, the Hoover Medal 2008 by the Hoover Board of Awards and the 2009 International Von Karman Wings Award by the Aerospace Historical Society in Collaboration with the Graduate Aerospace Laboratories (GALCIT) at the California Institute of Technology, USA.

Dr. Kalam became the 11<sup>th</sup> President of India on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2002 and after five eventful years he demitted office on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2007. His focus is on transforming India into a developed nation by 2020. His accent is on constructive networking and excellent human resources for an economically developed, prosperous and peaceful society.

Dr. Kalam has contributed immensely to the social, economic and technological development of the Nation as a responsible statesman, technocrat and project leader. With a deep sense of appreciation for his devoted service to the country in various capacities, his visionary leadership & faith in a value-based approach to life, his earnest endeavour to enthuse & ignite the nationalist spirit amongst the youth of the country and by way of offering SASTRA's homage to a public intellectual, I have the honour to present unto you, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam for the conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Science (honoris causa).

**DR. KALAM VISITS ANUSANDHAN KENDRA**

Dr. Kalam visited Anusandhan Kendra, SASTRA's Hub for Research and Innovation and interacted with the researchers. He suggested that with its nanotechnology expertise, SASTRA should develop nano-robots and nano-drug delivery system to address the killer diseases, cancer and HIV. Dr. Kalam complimented SASTRA for its research activities in the frontier areas of nanotechnology and its applications in health care and sensors.



Dr. Kalam at the Anusandhan Kendra

**SCHOOL OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, SASTRA REGAINS No.1 SLOT**

*The 7th BioSpectrum Top 20 Biotechnology Schools Survey 2011 ranks the School of Biotechnology, SASTRA University as the No.1 Private BT School in the country.*

Special issue

7<sup>th</sup> BioSpectrum Top 20 BT Schools Survey 2011

the business of biotech

# BioSpectrum

www.biospectrumindia.com

- ICT Mumbai stays top Public BT School
- SASTRA is No. 1 Private BT School

Public Biotech Schools		Private Biotech Schools	
Rank	School Name	Rank	School Name
1	Institute of Chemical Technology	1	SASTRA University
2	Rajiv Gandhi Center For Biotechnology	2	Jaypee University of Information Technology, Solan
3	Jawaharlal Nehru University	3	Manipal Life Science Center
4	University of Hyderabad	4	Shoolini University of Biotechnology & Management Sciences
5	Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University)	5	Vellore Institute of Technology University
6	Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University	6	Jaypee University of Information Technology
7	Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur	7	Vidya Pratishthan

## TCS & SASTRA CREATE RECORD AT SASTRA

India's leading Software Service Company M/s. TATA Consultancy Services Ltd. (TCS) recruited 1755 students of the 2012 batch from SASTRA University, during their campus recruitment drive conducted at SASTRA on September 16 & 17, 2011. TCS surpassed its earlier record that it set at SASTRA last year. This also includes four students recruited for the R&D Division with a pay package of Rs.6.3 lakhs per annum.

2,100 students from various engineering streams both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels appeared for this interview conducted by over 170 experts from TCS. While addressing the candidates, Mr. G. Srinivasa Raghavan, Country Head of TCS, spoke on the future of the IT services industry and TCS's initiative in emerging

areas of mobility and product development. Mr. K.Ganesan, Vice-President – HR, TCS expressed satisfaction in the recruitment productivity and complimented SASTRA for its customized academic-industry institute intervention.

It is also notable that amongst the recruited students, K. Kanimozhi, B. Tech. IT Branch, is from the nearby village of Nattani. She will become the first engineering graduate from that village and also the first to work in an Indian multinational company like TCS. The Management of SASTRA has been providing financial assistance for her higher education at SASTRA as part of its social commitment.

The Management of SASTRA expresses its happiness and thanks to TCS for their support and wishes all the students a successful career by being an integral part of TCS's continuous growth story.



## PLACEMENTS 2011

Besides TCS, the following companies visited SAISTRA campus in August and September 2011 and recruited our students. The total number of students placed so far is: 2420 (2012 Batch).

1. Ashok Leyland
2. Thought Works
3. VA TECH WABAG
4. Zifo Technologies
5. Mu Sigma
6. Ascendant Technologies
7. ELGI
8. Hindustan Motors
9. Murugappa
10. LISTER Technologies
11. Bosch
12. Cypress
13. HCL
14. ACCENTURE
15. WIPRO
16. L&T INFO TECH
17. CSC
18. Mahindra Sathyam



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FUNCTIONAL NANOMATERIALS

The International Conference on Functional Nanomaterials (ICFN 2011) was organized at SAISTRA between September 23-25, 2011. Prof. A. K. Sood, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore inaugurated the conference. Delivering the inaugural address, Prof Sood said that carbon nanomaterials offer exciting promise in high-end technology development ranging from biotechnology to electronics. The fascinating physical properties of graphene translate to new devices for memory and switching. Prof. Sood, traced the relationship between the nano allotrope cousins graphene and carbon nanotubes and their altered physical and electronic properties at the nanoscale for exciting applications.

The International Conference comprised five technical sessions on “Engineering Nanosystems”, “Smart Therapeutics”, “Thin Films & Coatings”, “Regenerative Medicine” and “Energy Conversion & Storage”, which streamlined current trends and challenges in various aspects of functional nanomaterials. This conference was addressed by eminent researchers like Dr. Rangaramanujam Kannan from Johns Hopkins University, USA, Dr. Marco Helder, VUMC, Netherlands, Dr. Javier Rodriguez Viejo from UAB, Spain, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Director, Coatings Mantra Science & Technology Consulting, Australia, Dr. Ajayan Vinu, University of Queensland, Australia besides eminent Indian researchers. The sessions focussed on issues haunting full-fledged commercialization of Nanotech-products. The conference was funded by the CSIR, DRDO and the ICMR, Government of India.



Prof. A.K. Sood at his presentation



The three-day brainstorming technical excursion was convened by Dr. S. Swaminathan, Director, Centre for Nanotechnology & Advanced Biomaterials (CeNTAB), SASTRA University. The CeNTAB housed in SASTRA's Hub for Research & Innovation (SHRI) was commissioned in the year 2006 with a focus on developing nanomaterials for health care and energy related applications. The Centre has been expanded to accommodate diverse research areas in nanotechnology and has at present 25 full-time Ph.D. students and several faculty members working on tissue engineering, sensor and thin film applications.

## SRI SRI PADMAVATHI SRINIVASA TIRUKALYANAM AT SASTRA

Tirupathi Sri Sri Padmavathi Srinivasa Perumal Tirukalyanam was held at SASTRA University, Thanjavur on July 2, 2011.

Thousands of people witnessed the Tirukalyanam which was organised by SASTRA University and Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam for the benefit of devotees in and around Thanjavur and students of SASTRA.

While krithis of Annamacharya were sung in the beginning, Visvaksenar Worship; angurarpanam; agni workshop; chanting of Vedas followed suit.

Exchange of garlands between Srinivasa Perumal and Padmavathi and Alarmelu Mangai took place.

'Prasadam' was distributed to devotees after the Tirukalyanam. Senior Officials, Archakas and Vidwans of Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam participated in the Tirukalyanam.



## KUMBABISHEKAM AT JAYAGANAPATHI TEMPLE OF SASTRA

Kumbabishekam was performed to the Jayaganapathi Temple at SASTRA Campus on July 10, 2011. Kumbabishekam was also performed simultaneously at the shrines of Lord Subramaniam, Goddess Durga, Lord Idumban, Lord Dakshinamurthy, Lord Guruvayurappan, Lord Hayagrivar, Goddess Lakshmi, Goddess Saraswathi and Lord Nagarajar.

Chaturvedics, including Nityaagnihotries, drawn from places like Tiruvaiyaru, Angarai, Chennai, Sengalipuram, Tiruvanaikovil and Thanjavur and pandits hailing from across Tamil Nadu, led by Shri K.Dhinakara Sharma of Kumbakonam, conducted the Kumbabishekam to the accompaniment of Mangala Vaadhyam by Shri T.K.Govindarajan and party of Thanjavur.

The event was preceded by Gopooja, Kanyapooja and other preliminaries. A large number of devotees including students, staff and public from nearby villages witnessed the event. Annadanam was organized to mark



the occasion. Significantly, as prescribed in the aagamas, the 32 aspects of Lord Ganesha and 16 aspects of Lord Muruga were on display adding grace to the event.

Shri S.Kasim and Shri S.Babu, Asthaana Vidwans of TTD, presented a nadaswaram concert in the evening. The yagasala rituals started on July 6. Music concerts were held every evening from July 7 and was performed by the SASTRA Carnatic team and Shri Rajesh Vaidhya on the Veena. Udayalur Shri Kalyana Rama Baghavadar rendered bhajans on July 8, 2011.

### *A Poetic Hymn on Jayaganapathi*

On the eve of the Kumbabishekam a poetic hymn, 'Vetri Vinayakar Nanmanimalai,' (a book in Tamil) composed by Dr. S. Selvavinayagam, Professor of Education, DDE, SASTRA was released. The work belongs to the 96 kinds



of Prabhandas. It consists of 40 poems with Venba Kattalaikalithurai, Virutham and Aasiriappa series recurring four times in anthadhi pattern. The work hails Jaya Ganapathi as the presiding deity of the campus, promoter of education and guardian of students in a hallowed complex adorning it with His pantheon.

Dr. Selvavinayagam presented the work by calling out the important passages from it and explained them in English. Thus SASTRA campus becomes a '*Patalpetra Thalam*'.

### **The concluding verse of the Vetri Vinayakar Nanmanimalai**

“You bestow grace – abounding well-being on earth  
By guarding well the performance of duty;  
Sire, you are the palladium of our life,  
You cause us gain the redemptive way;  
You annul men's pining distress grievous,  
You are the God that guards the working hands;  
You bestow learnings and you quell cruel trouble;  
You keep us away from the mean-minded;  
Pervading the SASTRA University, you cause  
The spread of its plethoric glory conferring  
In the act the boundless foison of learnings;  
Thus you have willed to bless us with godly life.  
Lo, we are indeed poised by you in beatitude.  
Do regard the protection of this place as your duty.  
O the one of Mammoth – Visage!  
Fostering loftiness in orbis terrarium  
Is in sooth your duty yeleft grace.

OM TAT SAT

Translation: Dr. T.N. Ramachandran, D.Litt.

## LEC-DEM ON SCIENCE FOR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE OF MRIDANGAM

A Lecture, Demonstration and Presentation on “Science for Musical Excellence of Mridangam” was organised at SASTRA on July 30, 2011. Dr.T. Ramasami, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology who spoke on the above topic said that music and science are interdependent and make each other soulful.

Dr.T.Ramasami reflected on the role of science in mridangam production and playing. He has taken up research on mridangam music along with ‘Umayalpuram’ Shri K.Sivaraman and Dr. M.D. Naresh of the Central Leather Research Institute, Chennai. The



Dr. Ramasami addressing the audience

project was about the scientific aspects of the materials involved and the harmonics in mridangam. The talk focused on the exploration of alternate materials for parchment, black patch and the core of the mridangam in order to be in line with phytosanitary laws of a few countries which demand fumigation of the mridangam.

Padma Vibhushan Dr. ‘Umayalpuram’ K.Sivaraman, mridangam exponent presented an interesting and captivating demonstration of the “Naadha.” He also emphasized on the ethics involved in accompaniment of artists.



## MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS DISTRIBUTED

Dr.T.Ramasami also distributed Dean's Merit Scholarships to students who secured the top 10 per cent ranks in the merit list during 2010-11. About 834 students received scholarships to the tune of Rs.69.79 lakh.



## FIELD EMISSION TRANSMISSION ELECTRON MICROSCOPE (FETEM) FACILITY

Dr.T.Ramasami, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, inaugurated the Field Emission Transmission Electron Microscope (FE-TEM) facility, located at Anusandhan Kendra at the SASTRA campus on July 30, 2011. This new imaging facility has been established at a cost of Rs.4 crore in the SASTRA's Hub for Research and Innovation (SHRI).

## YOUTH FESTIVAL ON SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

A one-day Youth Conference on Swami Vivekananda to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary was organized by the Department of English, SASTRA University on September 24, 2011. Delivering the inaugural address, Swami Sri Yatatananda, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Salem, exhorted the students to follow the Panchashila - the five commandments of Swami Vivekananda -- Goal orientation, moral integrity, brahmacharya and truthfulness, self-discipline, service and strength.

Dr. B. Krishnamurthy, Professor of English, SASTRA University, who spoke on “Swami Vivekananda on Education”, said, “To read Vivekananda is electrifying to everybody and would prove the purest way of protecting ourselves from the overweening materialistic tendency of modern society.”

Swami Sri Chandrashekaranda of Ramakrishna Tapovanam, Thiruparayathurai, spoke on Swami Vivekananda's life and teachings interspersed with a number of quotations. Dr.S.N.Srivastava, Registrar, who presided over function, stressed the relevance of the



teachings of Swami Vivekananda in the modern era. Dr. G. Venkatraman, the coordinator of the programme, said that the conference was organized to make an awareness of the higher values of life to the younger generation. Dr. K. Kannan, Dean, Humanities and Sciences, Dr. N. Kannan, and Prof. V.K. Balasubramaniam also spoke on the occasion.

A documentary on the life of Swami Vivekananda was also screened on the occasion. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the Oratorical and Gita Recitation competition held earlier to mark the occasion. 150 B.Tech. students attended the conference.

### LAURELS IN COMMONWEALTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



Kum. R. Aparna, fourth year B.Tech. ICT won the Bronze Medal in the under-20 girls category in the Commonwealth Chess Championship 2011 conducted in Johannesburg, South Africa, from July 28 to August 3, 2011. Prof.

R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, SASTRA reimbursed Rs.1.5 lakh towards the expenditure incurred to participate in the competition.

### DIG OF POLICE SPEAKS ON ANTI-RAGGING

Shri V.A. Ravikumar, IPS, DIG of Police, Thanjavur Range addressed senior students and members of the Anti-Ragging Committee which includes staff as well as representatives from public and NGOs, at SASTRA University on August 30, 2011. The DIG suggested that new methods and avenues of socializing the freshers

should be innovated by senior students. He appreciated the SASTRA management for organizing cultural and technical festivals which will neutralize the ill effects of ragging.



### ENGINEERS' DAY CELEBRATED

Engineers' Day was celebrated on September 15, 2011 to commemorate the 151st Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr.M.Visvesvaraya under the aegis of Civil Engineering Association, School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA. Mrs Anupama Mohanram, Managing Director, Green Evolution Architectural consultancy Pvt. Ltd., Chennai was the Chief Guest. Mrs.Anupama in her speech underscored the importance of the different aspects of growing green technology evolution in the design and architecture of buildings for sustainable environment and energy in Tamilnadu and other parts of the world. She also emphasized the need for using local materials in construction which are ecofriendly and non-toxic.

Earlier Dr.S. Seshadri, Dean/SoCE welcomed the gathering and lauded the notable achievements of Sir Visvesvaraya. Dr.K. Saravana Rajamohan, Associate Dean introduced the Chief Guest and Dr. K. Ramakrishnan, proposed a vote of thanks.



## SASTRA UNIVERSITY B.Ed. EQUIVALENT TO GOVERNMENT DEGREE

The Tamil Nadu Government has issued an order stating that the B.Ed degree course offered by SASTRA University under the Distance Education Programme (two years ) is equivalent to regular B.Ed degrees awarded by recognised universities in the state. The Management, Staff and Working Teachers of the programme thank the Government officials concerned wholeheartedly.

## INSPIRE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Four students of SASTRA University have been awarded the INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) fellowships given by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, this year. Out of the 7 fellowships in this area, four candidates from SASTRA University have been awarded the fellowship, followed by two from Bharathidasan University and one from Anna University, Trichy.

INSPIRE Fellowships are awarded for pursuing Ph.D in life sciences, physical sciences, chemical sciences, earth and atmospheric sciences, mathematical sciences and engineering sciences.

INSPIRE is an innovative programme of the Department of Science and Technology for attracting young talent to pursue research. The Assured Opportunity for Research Career (ARORC) under the INSPIRE programme is for researchers in the age group of 27-32 years. It offers research positions to young achievers and opportunity for independent research based on merit.

The fellowship carries a monthly stipend of Rs.16,000 plus house rent allowance and an annual contingency grant of Rs.20,000 for a period of five years or till the completion of Ph.D whichever is earlier.

## SASTRA TEAM WINS PRIZE AT 'BEST 2011'

A team of three final year B.Tech students from SASTRA – Chi. Guru Krupa N, Chi. Deepak Krishna and Chi. Venkateswara Rao S, from the School of Chemical & Biotechnology, bagged the top honours at 'BEST 2011', held at Bengaluru on July 29, 30, 31 and Aug 1, 2011.

The team won the first prize in the business plan contest and won a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs for their business plan to produce carbon nanotubes from industrial exhaust.

BEST-India Biotechnology Entrepreneurship Student Team is aimed at encouraging young post-graduate and doctoral students in developing biotechnology entrepreneurship and exposing them to issues involved in commercialization of bioscience.

BEST is sponsored by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, and is administered by ABLE-India.

This team will also be given an opportunity to attend and present the winning business plan at ABLE's Annual BioInvest Conference.

BioInvest is ABLE's flagship conference that brings together on one platform Life Science Companies, Institutional Investors and Investment Bankers to explore opportunities for investment.

The team finished top among the 21 teams short listed for the finals from over 600 applications from all over the country.

The finals at Best 2011 had four teams from SASTRA University and several other teams constituting postgraduate and doctoral students from CFTRI (Mysore), IIT-M, IIT-B, IIT-R, ICGEB - (New Delhi) and several other institutions.

The teams were provided a three-day residential entrepreneurship workshop coordinated by Dr. Shailendra Vyakarnam, Director of Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (CfEL).

## SASTRA-SINGAPORE ALUMNI CHAPTER MEET

A meeting of the SASTRA-Singapore Alumni Chapter was held in Singapore on August 21, 2011. The participants of the meeting recalled their fond memories at SASTRA.



## Ph.D. BY FACULTY

### Dr. N.R.Raajan

SAP - School of EEE

Title : Noise Cancellation and Dynamical Effect Architecture for WCDMA (DEAW).

Supervisor: Dr. Y.Venkatramani  
Director, Saranathan College of Engineering Trichy &

Dr. T.R Sivaramakrishnan, Senior Professor, School of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, SASTRA



### Dr. P. Thiruvasagam

AP III - School of Biotechnology

Title : Synthesis and Characterization of Aromatic Polyimides.

Supervisor : Dr. D. Venkatesan, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Chemical and Biotechnology, SASTRA University.



### Dr. S. Bharathiraja

AP III - School of Mechanical Engg.

Title : Experimental Investigation of Optimum Cutting Parameters for Machining.

Supervisor : Dr. N. Baskar, Professor, M.A.M. College, Trichy.



### Dr. D.Shanmugasundaram

SAP - School of Mechanical Engg.

Title : Investigations on Workability and Mechanical Properties of Fe-C-Ni-Mo and Fe-C-Cr-Ni-Mo Sintered Low Alloy Steels.

Supervisor : Dr. R. Chandramouli, Associate Dean(Research), School of Mechanical Engineering, SASTRA



### Dr. G. Balasubramanian

AP III - School of EEE

Title : Control System Design for Chemical Processes using Neural Networks.

Supervisor : Dr. T.K. Radhakrishnan, H.O.D. Chemical Engg., NIT Trichy.



### Dr. S. Anuradha

School of Biotechnology

Title : Development of Novel 3-D Nanofibrous Scaffold for Neural Regeneration

Supervisor : Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean, (Sponsored Research), SASTRA



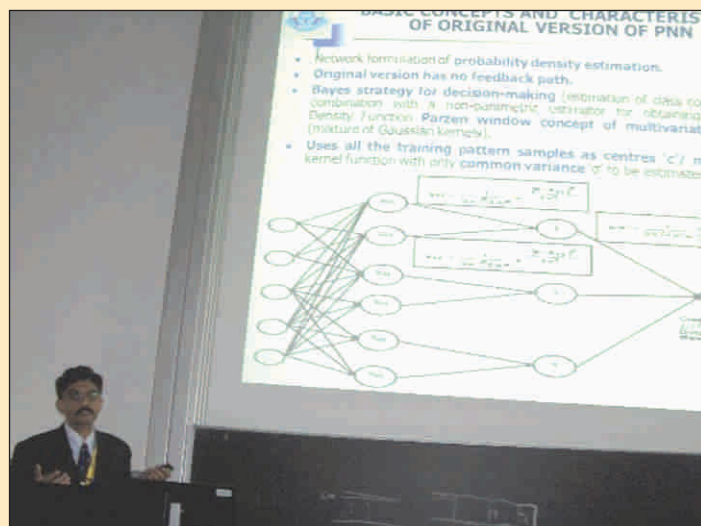
## FACULTY PAPER PRESENTATION IN GERMANY

Shri. S. Venkatesh, Assistant Professor - III, Dept. of Electrical and Electronics Engg., SASTRA, presented the following two papers at the 17th International Symposium on High Voltage Engineering (ISH 2011) held at Leibniz University, Hannover, Germany from 22nd – 26th August 2011.

1. Hypergraph based Probabilistic Neural Network for Partial Discharge Pattern Classification”
2. A Novel Continuous Density Hidden Markov Model- Probabilistic Neural Network for Multiple Source Partial Discharge Pattern Recognition”.

The Symposium on High Voltage Engineering (ISH) is a prestigious forum for researchers in High Voltage engineering and the congregation is held once in three years in various countries. 400 papers were presented and around 500 delegates from 47 countries attended the symposium.

The papers presented by Shri Venkatesh are the outcome of the research work he is involved in SASTRA based on the facilities obtained from the Research & Modernization Fund Project sanctioned by SASTRA University in 2008.



## SAKSHAMA XI

SAKSHAMA XI, an annual technical event organized by MECASSO (Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineers Association), School of Mechanical Engineering, SASTRA University, was held on September 23 & 24, 2011. The technical fete was inaugurated by Dr. S.N. Srivastava, Registrar, SASTRA University. Participants from various institutions presented their papers on various streams of mechanical engineering like manufacturing, design, metallurgy, thermal engineering, energy management, applied mechanics, automobile engineering and robotics. Events like technical workshop on auto-tuning, technical quizzes, design contests, robotic events like Gauntlet (manual) and shadow tracer (autonomous) added flavour to the technical extravaganza. 200 students from 40 premier institutes across India participated in the event. Prizes were awarded to the winners of the various contests. TVS Motors India joined hands with MECASSO to make the event successful.



## HINGES 11

HINGES 11, a two-day national level technical symposium was organized by the School of Civil Engineering on September 29 & 30, 2011. The technical festival was inaugurated by Dr.R. Sakthivadivel, Emeritus Professor, Centre for Water resources, Anna University, Chennai. Shri. K Muthumani, Director Grade Scientist, Structural Engineering Research Centre Chennai delivered a lecture on "Earthquake Resistant Structures." Technical events like "Probe" (Paper Presentation) "CONCORD" (quiz competition) "Capamastro" (Structural Modelling), CADCODE (Design Competition), "Progetto" (poster presentation) and DRITCON (Concrete cube floating) were conducted.

Dr. A. Murugappan, Head, Dept. of Civil Engg. Annamalai University, Dr. C.J Kumanan, Head of Remote Sensing, Bharathidasan University, Prof. S. Anantha Padmanaban, Professor, School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA and Dr. R. Siva Coumar, Scientist NEERI, Chennai, Dr.S. Seshadri, Dean, School of Civil Engg., SASTRA chaired the paper presentation sessions.

Participants from various colleges presented 32 papers on various disciplines. The Brique Sauter event presented a fabulous opportunity for everyone to actually stray away from bookish knowledge and get down to the task of building a wall. The compression testing machine in the strength of materials lab had a long night as over sixty concrete cubes from various colleges were tested for their strength in the Seul Macon event. In Capo Mastro, participants were asked to design and construct a floating shopping mall model that would be tested for live and wind loads. The team from Mepco Schlenk College of Engineering, Sivakasi emerged as the overall winner.

The star attraction of the festival was a suspension bridge "Sky Scraper" made entirely of 25000 ice-cream sticks, weighing 25 kgs and having the ability to withstand 500kgs of weight. It exhibited the technical brilliance of students of SASTRA University.

The winners were awarded cash prizes and all participants were given certificates. Dr.K. Saravana Rajamohan, Associate Dean, 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, Deconar Services Ltd, SMI ready mix concrete, S.S Constructions, Navayuga Constructions, Campus UK and TestFunda.



## WIPRO MISSION 10X WORKSHOPS

Sixth batch of WIPRO MISSION 10X Basic Workshop was conducted from 25-29 July 2011 at SASTRA Wipro Mission 10X concept centre. 24 faculty members from SASTRA, Sudarshan College of Engineering, Pudukottai, Parisutham Institute of Science & Technology, Thanjavur & MAM College of Engineering, Trichy participated in the workshop. The resource persons were Mr. Bhuvansundar Harnath, Mr. Muthukumar and Mr. Sricharan, Senior Consultants from WIPRO, Bangalore.

Seventh batch of WIPRO MISSION 10X Basic Workshop was conducted from 16-20 August 2011 at SASTRA Wipro Mission 10x Concept Centre. 31 faculty members from SASTRA, AS-Salam college of Engineering, Aduthurai, & Pavendhar Bharathidasan College of Engineering & Technology, Trichy, participated in the workshop. The resource persons were Dr. Shailaja Sastry, Mrs. Gauthami Ramesh and Mr. Ashok Kumar, Senior Consultants from WIPRO, Bangalore.

An Advance workshop of WIPRO MISSION 10X for June batch of participants was conducted on 26 & 27 August 2011 at the SASTRA Wipro Mission 10X Concept Centre. 32 faculty members from SASTRA, Kings College of Engineering, Pudukottai and CARE School of Engineering, Trichy, participated in the workshop. The resource person was Dr. Ashok Kumar, Senior Consultant from WIPRO, Bangalore.

SASTRA Mission 10Xians along with WIPRO celebrated the anniversary of WIPRO MISSION 10X on September 5, 2011 at the WIPRO Concept Centre, SASTRA through live webcast from WIPRO Bangalore



### Training Attended

Dr. Brinda Kailash Giri, & Mr. V. Govindaraj, Assistant Professors, from the Department of Training and Placement attended Master Trainer programmer for WIPRO MISSION 10X MXLA I & II MODULE from 17-19 August 2011 at WIPRO Bangalore.

## MoU WITH HCL TECHNOLOGIES

An MoU was signed between M/s HCL Technologies and SASTRA on August 25, 2011. The MoU was signed by Dr. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean Planning and Development, SASTRA and Shri. Vaidhyanathan Niranjana, General Manager, HCL.

Chi. R. Vaidhyanathan, Chief Cost Officer, HCL Technologies who spoke on the occasion said that the rate at which technology is advancing necessitates corporates to innovate continuously for a competitive advantage and such industry expectations must be necessarily felt at the campuses of colleges to enable students to think out of the box. He stressed the need for students to not only have the right knowledge skill set, but also the right attitude which shall help them to unsettle the status quo with regard to technological innovations. The MoU provides scope for such possibilities, he said.

Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning & Development, SASTRA, in his welcome address, stressed the need for industry-academia interaction.

Shri L K Venkatesan, Operations Director, HCL, conducted a workshop on 'Employees First and Customers Second' for over 100 selected students. Ms. Priyashree Anilkumar, DGM - Talent Management, HCL, and others participated.

Dr. V. Badrinath, Dean, Training & Placement, proposed a vote of thanks.



## PRE-PLACEMENT TRAINING

The Department of Training & Placement organized pre-placement training programmes for all the final year students of B.Tech, MCA and MBA of 2012 batch during the month of August and September 2011. The training agencies were Productivity Reach, Blue Lotus, FOCUS Academy, AXION and Trichy Plus. 2720 students from all the branches of B.Tech, MCA & MBA attended the training.

## ROADSHOWS BY TCS & HCL

The Department of Training and Placement organized a TCS Roadshow as part of Academic Interface Program first time ever on Engineering and Industrial Services called "TCS Engineering Journey" on 5th August 2011.

The objective of the road show was to create a mindshare with SASTRA on the 2 decades of TCS expertise in Engineering Services. Concepts like new product development, product life cycle management and plant solutions cut across wide range of Sectors like Manufacturing, Aerospace, Automotive, Energy and Utilities were broadly covered in the Roadshow.

The HCL ROADSHOW was organised on September 9, 2011 to bring an awareness about HCL'S Life Sciences and core engg verticals to students (to motivate them to join HCL) and to explore the possibilities for joint research & supporting SASTRA'S projects and other possible interventions with schools of SCBT & SOME by HCL.



## INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON HIGHER EDUCATION

The Department of Training and Placement organized an International Seminar on Higher Education on 24th August 2011. Official Representatives from the organizations promoting higher education in USA, UK, Germany, Netherlands and France elaborated the study and research opportunities in their countries.



## PROGRAMMING CONTEST BY INFOSYS

The Training & Placement Department organised the college round of the Aspirations 2020, a programming Contest of Infosys, on August 27, 2011 at SASTRA Campus. Out of the 11 teams participated, Chi. T.P. Prakash Chandar, Chi. S. Shravan and Chi. B. Ganesh of III B.Tech. CSE won the first round and moved into the State level competition. The State level competition was held on September 12, 2011 at Infosys Chennai Development Center and our students won the FIRST place. These students would be participating in National Level Finals to be held in October, 2011 at Infosys Bangalore Development Centre.

Aspirations 2020 is a platform for students of colleges to prepare themselves to become global professionals. Programming Contest under Aspirations 2020 encourage the spirit of competitiveness and accelerate learning through extra-curricular activities, within the student community. Engineering and MCA students from 630 Campus Connect colleges and partner colleges across 20 States & 23 different Zones took part in the Aspirations2020 contests.

## CAREER COUNSELLING TO SCHOOL STUDENTS

As a part of Career Counselling Programme to Higher Secondary students, 350 students from 13 Higher Secondary Schools from Trichy, Thanjavur and Kumbakonam visited SASTRA on 27 August 2011. They were taken for a Campus tour to show the high-tech equipment and laboratories available at SASTRA. Later, they took a "Personality Profiling Test" which would help them to assess the strengths and weaknesses to plan their career.



## LINUX WORKSHOPS

The Spoken Tutorial project is the initiative of the "Talk to a Teacher" project of the National Mission on Education through ICT, launched by MHRD, Govt. of India. It began in SASTRA in the form of Linux workshops conducted in collaboration with IIT Bombay. The workshop was conducted by student volunteers at SASTRA with material provided by IIT BOMBAY under the guidance of the Dean, Training and Placement Dr. Badrinath. Nearly 400 students from the final year and 200 from the second and third year have successfully completed the workshop. The workshops were conducted during August and September 2011.

## PHOENIX ASSOCIATION

The School of Management, SASTRA inaugurated PHOENIX Association (Association of MBA Students) on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2011. The Chief Guest Shri R. Niranjana Subramanya Raja, General Manager (HR), HCL Technologies inaugurated the club and addressed on the topic "Challenges in Managing HR in IT Industry". He spoke on creating transparency in the system, creating visibility and an environment which empowers the employees to take decision and creating interest in the job.



The PHOENIX Association of the School of Management organized a "Knowledge Leadership Forum" lecture on 16th August, 2011. Shri. K.R. Ravi, Executive Vice President-Corporate HR, Hindustan Motors Limited spoke on the Topic "Future Challenges in HR Management". He said that the greatest challenges that HR Department face is about expecting the unexpected and creating a competitive working environment. An initiative has to be taken by the stakeholders in order to create a qualified futuristic workforce. Attrition and retention are two important challenges that HR faces in the current scenario. He also elaborated on Talent Management and Conflict Management.

## ABRAHAM MASLOW CLUB

Abraham Maslow Club (HR Club) was inaugurated for the academic year 2011-12 on 8th September 2011. Shri O. Karthikeyan, Resource Deployment Manager, IBM

India Pvt. Ltd, delivered a special lecture on "Organization Culture- Is it a competitive advantage?" He said that Culture is about individuals in a group sharing patterns of behaviours. There is no cultural absolute as it is relative and has a power to create a culture that is the best fit for an organization's future direction. The cultural paradigm includes: process, stories and symbol, power structures, organisational structures, control systems and rituals and routines.

## KNOWLEDGE LEADERSHIP FORUM LECTURES

The School of Computer Science & Engineering, SASTRA organised the following lectures:

**Dr. G. Athithan**, Head, Information Security Division, Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics,(CAIR) Bangalore, DRDO, spoke on the topic 'Current Issues in Information Security' on September 20, 2011.



The speaker defined the concept 'Information Security' which means protecting information and information systems from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, perusal, inspection, recording or destruction. Information security is concerned with the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data regardless of the form the data may take: electronic, print, or other forms. He said that Computer security can focus on ensuring the availability and correct operation of a computer system without concern for the information stored or processed by the computer.

**Dr. S. Venugopal**, Associate Director, GRIP, IGCAR spoke on "Development of Advanced Robots" on August 27, 2011.



Dr. Venugopal talked about the main difference between humanoid and other kinds of robots. Like other mechanical robots, humanoid refers to the following basic components too: Sensing, Actuating and Planning and Control. Since they try to simulate the human structure and behavior and they are autonomous systems, generally humanoid robots are more complex than other kinds of robots.

This complexity affects all robotic scales (mechanical, spatial, time, power density, system and computational complexity), but it is more noticeable on power density and system complexity scales, said the speaker.

**Dr. Seshadri Srinivasan**, Scientist, ABB INCRC Bangalore spoke on “Consensus and formation control algorithms for network robotic agents” on August 19, 2011.

Dr. Seshadri Srinivasan said that consensus among robotic agents requires transmission of consensus variables for achieving consensus and usually wireless channels are employed in such scenarios. In wireless channels packet dropouts are more pronounced than their wired counterparts.



**Dr. K. Neelakantan**, Chief Technology Officer, ANSH Technologies, Bangalore spoke on “Scaling at 90 nm and beyond the Challenge of Power Dissipation” on September 5, 2011.

The speaker enumerated the six short-channel leakage mechanisms like Reverse-bias p-n junction leakage and sub threshold leakage. He also elaborated on the architecture / circuit design and issues such as dynamic power reduction, leakage power reduction and fine tuned device for low power design.

**MECASSO** (Mechanical and Mechatronics Association) organised a lecture on “Rewarding Career in Automotive Industry” by **Shri.S.Kesavan**, Executive Director, Brakes India Limited on 23rd September, 2011.

The speaker focussed on the ways to choose a good career, and what the automotive industry has to contribute to this need of students. He explained the basic concepts of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), striking a comparison between developing countries like India and China. The strong hold of Indian economy lies in agriculture. Despite the global recession, with the United States of America (USA) closing down 27 banks, Indian banks stood strong with proper sterilising of funds done. The crisis that India is likely to face is paucity of funds for Research and Development activities and to counter this, Indian government should muster itself to shore up this crucial need of ours.



School of EEE organized a Knowledge Leadership Forum Lecture on August 20, 2011. Shri. Murali Nagarajan, Director R&D, Ametek Instruments India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, delivered a lecture on “Engineering Product Development”. During his talk he talked on engineering product development life cycle, design for manufacturing and test and gave an introduction to Ametek and some of its products. Earlier Shri. Rajagopal, Principal Engineering Manager from Ametek delivered a lecture on “Traits of a Good Engineer”, in which he shared some insights on the key traits that make a good engineer.



## COLOSSEUM '11

Colosseum'11, a National Level Inter Engineering Sports Festival was organized by SASTRA from August 26-28, 2011. Cricket, Football, Badminton (Men and Women), Volley Ball(Men and Women), Basket Ball (Men and Women), Chess (Men and Women), Table Tennis(Men and Women) and Best Physique were the events held during the sports meet. 1200 students both men and women from 40 Colleges participated. Cash prizes Rs. 5000 for the winner and Rs.3000 for the Runners-up were given in each category. Shri V.B. Chandrasekar, Indian Cricketer participated in the valedictory function and distributed the trophies and cash prizes.



## TRAINING ON GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

A two-day practical training on Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and Differential Global Positioning Systems (DGPS) was held on August 19 & 20, 2011. 17 participants from various parts of Tamil Nadu attended the training program which was organized by the Centre for Advanced Research in Environment (CARE), School of Civil Engineering, SASTRA.



## WORKSHOP ON NDT TECHNIQUES

The Department of EEE organized a Workshop on NDT Techniques on July 23 & 24, 2011. Dr.K.Vijayarekha / Associate Dean, EEE, SASTRA University and Dr.B.Venkatraman, Hon.Secretary, INS Kalpakkam, Head, Quality Assurance Division, IGCAR, Kalpakkam coordinated the Workshop and the Workshop was supported by Indian Society for Non Destructive Testing & Indian Nuclear Society (Kalpakkam).

Five experts from IGCAR spoke/conducted practical sessions. NDT equipment like Boroscope, thermal camera, ultrasonic flaw detector etc. brought from IGCAR, Kalpakkam were demonstrated along with the equipment at the NDT lab of SASTRA University. 156 participants from 10 neighbouring colleges attended the workshop.



## SPACE ASSOCIATION

The activities of SPACE, the association of the Electronics & Communication Engineering were inaugurated on 15th July 2011 by Dr. S. Balachandran, Director, Cyclone Warning Research Centre, Regional Meteorological Centre, Chennai with a special lecture on "Meteorology Technology". In his speech, he emphasized the role of electronics and communication in cyclone prediction and precaution. Dr. M. Sridharan, President of the ECE students association introduced the office bearers for the academic year 2011-12. Ms. Apoorva Dasari welcomed the gathering and Mr. Sai Srinivas Krishnan proposed the vote of thanks.

Dr. K. Sundararaman, Senior Scientist & Scientist-in-charge, Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Kodaikanal Observatory, Kodaikanal, delivered a special lecture on "Space Weather – Solar Terrestrial Connections" on 8th August 2011.

Mr. Amarendra Dasari, General Manager, Bharath Electronics Limited, Pune delivered a lecture on "A Journey Through Public Sectors" on 13th September 2011. He also explained about the various facilities available for electronics, communication, instrumentation and micro-fabrication at the various BEL centres.

Mr. Moorthi Paramasivam VA, Consultant, Enterprise Security Solutions, WIPRO Tecnologies, Bangalore, delivered a lecture on "Communication Security – How to approach" on 16th September 2011. During his talk he addressed the different concepts in communication security.



## SASTRA RETAINS FESTEMBER 2011 TROPHY

Festember 2011, the cultural extravaganza of NIT-Trichy witnessed the participation of over 80 colleges. In the event, SASTRA University romped home in style winning the overall trophy for the 11th time. SASTRA's cultural team dominated in every single cluster. The Arts team painted themselves into the minds of everyone at Festember with a performance of great élan and flair. The music team stamped their class at NIT by coming a close third in the 'Best Band' category. Their victory, however, lay in the fact that even the students from opposing colleges applauded it as one of the best performances they have seen. Moreover, the band's 'Own Composition' came in for critical acclaim by the judges.

The Choreo-Nite witnessed the Eastern Dance Team performing to an ingenious theme, the British invasion of India and the subsequent independence movement and enthralled the packed crowd with their finesse and passion. The various literary clusters too did not leave any stone unturned in completely exerting SASTRA's

dominance at Festember, 2011. English Lits, as expected walked away with 1,2 and 3 in JAM, but it was their supremacy in the quizzes eclipsing even those of the host college that really set SASTRA apart. Events like Dumb Charades and Cocktail produced a satisfactory minimum of two places.

The Drama Team, with brilliant comic timing and masterful acting dictating their play held the audience spellbound winning themselves the second place. SASTRA Tamil Sangam entered the finals of all their events and successfully managed to place in them notwithstanding tough completion. Hindi Lits were expected to come, see and win. That they did, with panache marking every one of their events from quizzes to extempore speaking. Taking everything into perspective and putting all the performances in a nutshell, it will not be an understatement to say that SASTRA reigned supreme at Festember 2011 and earned the respect and admiration of all there.



SASTRA Cultural Team receives the Illayaraja Trophy

## MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

Students of Third Year B.A., LL.B. and First Year B.B.A., LL.B., Chi. Sathishprem S.R. Raghavarathan, Chi. Ravikumar Swaminathan, Chi. Ram Kumar. N and Chi. Akshay. R have secured Third Position in Surana & Surana National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition held at National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS) Cochin, Kerala, from September 23-25, 2011.

Chi. G. Karthikeyan of 1st Year B.B.A., LL.B. was adjudged the Best Student Advocate in the Shri Vile Parle Kelvani Mandal's (SVKM) "Nyayavalokan 2011" - National Trial Advocacy & Judgement Writing Competition", held in Mumbai in September, 2011.



## LAURELS BY LAW STUDENTS IN GAMES

Students of 3rd Year B.A., LL.B. and 1st Year B.Com., LL.B. Chi. Ravikumar Swaminathan, Chi. RM. Kulandaivelu, Chi. M.Veerabratran Prasanth and Chi. Hemnag Indiran Secured First Position in Chess and bagged 4 gold medals at "SPIRITUS" – National Law School of India University, (NLSIU), Bangalore Inter Law School Sports fest held from August 31 to September 2, 2011. Kum. Sella Visalakshi of 1st year B.A., LL.B. bagged 5 silver medals and 3 Bronze medals in Swimming (Freestyle, Butterfly, Breast Stroke, Back Stroke).



## ESSAY CONTEST ON GANDIAN VALUES

Kum. Ishwarya Bhaskaran, IV B.Tech. EIE received a cash prize of Rs. 300 in the essay writing contest conducted by Nandini, Voice for the Deprived, Chennai as part of the Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations. In the state level competition held on the topic "The impact of rapid spread of liquor habit in Tamil Nadu and how to retrieve the situation," 10 best essays were selected for the award. She received the award at a function held at Adyar (Chennai) which was presided over by Justice Shri V.Ramasubramanian, Judge, Madras High Court and Shri.N.Vittal, IAS (Retd.), former Central Vigilance Commissioner.



## DESIGN CONTEST

Kum. L. Theivanai, Chi.S.N. Varun and Chi. K. Sai Surya Prakash of IIIB.Tech. Civil participated in the national level technical symposium conducted by Thiyagarajar College of Engg., Madurai from 5th to 15th September 2011 and won the Third Place in Design Contest (Public Library Model). They got a cash prize of Rs. 1500 each.



## BSNL CULTURAL MEET

Chi. M. Ramakrishnan, IV B.Tech. Mech. Engg. won the Second Prize in Instrumental –Violin event in the All



India BSNL Cultural Meet held at Kurukshetra, Haryana, from September 13-16, 2011. He represented Tamil Nadu State which won the overall Championship.

## DIABETIC NEUROPATHY DETECTION CAMP

The Centre for Advanced Research in Indian System of Medicine (CARISM), SASTRA organized a Free Diabetic Neuropathy Detection Camp at Vaidyanatha Arogyasala, SASTRA University Campus, Thanjavur on August 20, 2011. More than 40 patients were examined. They were advised on diet and exercise for the prevention of Diabetic Neuropathy. The camp was inaugurated by Prof. P.Brindha, Associate Dean, CARISM, Doctors of CARISM, Dr.C.Savariraj Sahayam, Dr.R. Devanathan and Dr. P.Rajalakshmi organized the camp and examined the patients.



## LAURELS IN SPORTS

SASTRA's sports teams participated in Sportiva'11, a state level sports tournament held at Parisutham Institute of Technology and Science, Thanjavur from September 7-10, 2011. SASTRA Chess team (Men and Women) were the winners and Badminton (W), Volley Ball (W), Table Tennis (W) team bagged the runners-up. Table Tennis (M), Badminton (M), Volley Ball (M) and Snooker (M) teams of SASTRA won the third place.

SASTRA's Basketball (Men and Women) teams won the runners-up title in the Periyar Memorial Tournament (District Level) held at Periyar Maniyammai University, Vallam on September 12 & 13, 2011.

## TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SRC

Teachers Day was celebrated at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre by the School of Education on September 4, 2011. 100 students of B.Ed. (Distance Education) and the students of the regular B.Ed. & M.Sc., B.Ed., programme participated in the celebrations. Major A. Balasubramanian, Principal, School of Education, SASTRA spoke on the life and works of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan. Chi. Arivudainambi, Chi. Iyappan, Chi. John Basco and Selvi Bindu of IV M.Sc., B.Ed., presented papers on lessons to be learnt and inspirations to be derived from the life of Dr. Radhakrishnan.



## THE ATHENAEUM

The Athenaeum was inaugurated on 9th September 2011 by Prof. C. Rajasekaran, Former Prof. & Head. Dept of English, Govt. Arts College for Men (Autonomous) Kumbakonam. Prof. Rajasekaran spoke on "An Overview of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Literary Criticism"

### Lecture on Romantic Poets

Under the auspices of the Athenaeum Dr. K. Chellappan, Former Prof and Head, Dept of English, Bharathidasan University, Trichy gave a lecture on 'English Romantic Poets' on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011. In his lecture Dr. Chellappan explained how the romantic poets ushered in a change of sensibility in English poetry of the early nineteenth century. Every subject they discussed in poetry was coloured by one of the two aspects of romanticism. Wordsworth dealt with ordinary subjects and explored what was strange, extraordinary or supernatural in them. Coleridge brought in the elements of the supernatural and made them familiar and ordinary.

All the romantic poets saw the infinite in the finite and eternity in a moment. The learned speaker illustrated the new sensibility with profuse quotations from the poetry of Wordsworth, Coleridge, Byron, Keats and Shelley. "Life is not to be narrowed down to our empirical knowledge. The romantics indeed extended the horizons of our perception", said the speaker in his conclusion. This special lecture was arranged by the Dept. of English for the benefit of M.A. (English Litt.) B.Ed. Students in particular.



## STAFF STUDY CIRCLE

Dr. B. Krishnamoorthy, Prof. & Head, Dept. of English SRC inaugurated the 'Staff Study Circle' of the Department of English on September 4, 2011. The study circle provides a forum to the faculty members to mould themselves as effective and efficient teachers of English. Dr. R.V. Ram, Prof. of English gave the first lecture on "Neutral Accent". Dr. Ram also spoke on 'Literary Criticism – A Survey' on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

## STUDENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

The activities of ELPOWER, an association for the students of Electrical and Electronics Engineering were



inaugurated on 2nd September 2011 by Shri N. Mohana Sundaram, Superintending Engineer, Tiruvarur Electricity Distribution Circle, Tamil Nadu Generating and Distribution Corporation, Tiruvarur. In his inaugural address, Shri N. Mohana Sundaram appealed to the students to be creative and innovative in their approach to national problems. He asked the students to consider non-conventional electricity production as an important challenge to their intellectual caliber and work specifically for it. He also threw light on a few non conventional methods of producing electricity and went on to motivate the students to face such challenges with confidence.

The activities of ELCOMDAIS, the student's association of the Department of Electronics and Communication were inaugurated on August 23, 2011 by Shri Sarma Gunturi, Senior Design Engineer, Wireless Connectivity Solutions Group, Texas Instruments, Bangalore. Shri Sarma Gunturi delivered a lecture on OFDM Systems. In his talk he explained the basics of Frequency Division Multiplexing and then went on to discuss the method of generating and transmitting the signals through the OFDM approach.

The activities of COM-MAN FORUM, the association of the Department of Commerce and Management Studies were inaugurated on 5th September 2011. Shri AL. Ramanathan, Chief Manager, Indian Overseas Bank, Asset Recovery Branch, Coimbatore inaugurated the association and delivered a lecture on Credit Management in Banks.



EXACT, the association of the Department of Computer Science was inaugurated by Dr. N.P. Gopalan, Professor, Department of



Computer Applications National Institute of Technology, Trichy with a lecture on Database Management in Clouds. Dr. Gopalan also released the association magazine.

GENECHEM, the association of the Department of Chemistry and Biosciences was inaugurated on September 8, 2011. Dr. S. Nagini, Professor of Biochemistry, Annamalai University, delivered a lecture on Cancer-the outlaw cells. In her lecture, the speaker highlighted how the unique cancer cells divide and grow uncontrollably forming malignant tumors and how it can be detected by a number of signs and symptoms, screening tests and imaging.



KALAMALIKA, the fine arts and cultural club was inaugurated on September 3, 2011 by Shri R. Gopalan, leading Advocate of Kumbakonam. He said that we must give serious thought to fine arts to protect our cultural heritage, as that alone will go a long way to arrest the fast corroding influence of westernization of Indian life. The music team of SRC rendered classical and light music programme.



## NSS ACTIVITIES

The NSS volunteers of SASTRA Main Campus carried out cleaning work at The Big Temple, Thanjavur on July 13, 2011. They also cleaned the Punnai Nallur Mariamman Temple and were involved in the Crowd control activities on all Sundays of the month of Aavani.



A Blood donation and group identification camp was organized on 5th of August 2011 at SRC in which 210 students got their blood group identified. They donated 125 units of Blood to the Govt. Blood Bank, Kumbakonam. Dr. Radhakrishnan, Medical Officer, Govt. Hospital, Kumbakonam participated in the camp.

15 NSS volunteers participated in the Disaster Awareness camp organized by Sathya Sai State Unit on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2011 at Mayiladuthurai.



The Temple Cleaning camp was organized by NSS units on August 26, 2011 at Arulmigu Nageswaran Temple, Kumbakonam. 75 NSS volunteers participated in the camp.



A Science awareness campaign was organized on 24th August 2011 by the NSS Units. 110 students from the Little Flower High School, Kumbakonam participated in the programme. The students visited the house of Ramanujan Mathematics and the various labs at SRC.

Dr. S. Ganga delivered a special lecture on Nutrition and Dietetics on 21st September 2011.

100 NSS volunteers participated in temple cleaning and crowd regulation at Arulmigu Kumbeswaran Temple during Navrathri festival.

## NSS DAY CELEBRATION

As a part of NSS Day Celebrations a special lecture was organized by the NSS units of Shanmugha Polytechnic College, on “Leadership qualities and creativity” on September 29, 2011. Dr. G.Venkatraman, Associate Professor of English, SASTRA addressed the students. NSS programme officers Shri P.Balasubramanian and Shri G.Saravnamoorthi also spoke.



## UPCOMING EVENT

### International Conference On Intelligent Manufacturing Systems

Feb 17 & 18, 2012

Contact Details:

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