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IT Is Happening At SASTRA



Newsletter from SASTRA University

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Message from the VICE-CHANCELLOR

The SASTRA-Ramanujan Award 2016 was presented to Dr. Maksym Radziwill of McGill University, Canada at the 14th International Conference on Number Theory held on December 21, 2016 at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre of SASTRA at Kumbakonam. The joint winner of the

award Dr. Kaisa Matomaki of University of Kurku, Finland will receive the award later.

Shri Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Chief Justice of Madras High Court released the 'SASTRA Legal Aid Clinic Directory' and the 'DVD Compendium of Speeches' delivered by eminent jurists, on October 1, 2016. SASTRA honoured the legendary jurist Shri K. Parasaran on his 90th birthday by releasing a book 'KP 90 Law & Dharma.' Justice Kaul released the book at a function organized in Chennai in October 2016. Shri S. Gurusamy, Thought Leader delivered the 13th Nani Palkhivala Memorial Lecture on 'Demonetization-Causes, Concerns & Consequences' in Chennai on November 29, 2016. The School of Law hosted the prestigious 21st Stetson International Environment Moot Court competition from November 25-27, 2016.

Two new programmes – SASTRA-TCS Teacher Training Programme to train School teachers in digital pedagogy and SASTRA-TCS Finishing School to train unemployed engineering graduates, were launched on October 11, 2016. Dr. T. Ramasami, Former Secretary, DST inaugurated the ISSE Trichy Chapter at SASTRA on December 15, 2016.

Two international conferences were organized by the School of Mechanical Engineering and the School of Chemical and Biotechnology, SASTRA in this quarter.

SASTRA helped the District Administration in counting the number of pilgrims attending the Thirukarthigai Mahadeepam Festival at Tiruvanmalai held on December 12, 2016, with its advanced head counting tool.

As a tribute to Cho Ramaswamy's multifaceted contributions to the cause of public at large, SASTRA has proposed to create a Chair in his name at the University.

The Department of Training and Placement conducted several workshops and training programmes to the general public, especially one to the Regional Heads of Indian Overseas Bank.

Wish you a Happy New Year 2017!

Prof. R. Sethuraman
Vice-Chancellor

SASTRA-RAMANUJAN AWARD 2016

The SASTRA-Ramanujan Award 2016 was presented to Dr. Maksym Radziwill of McGill University, Canada during the inauguration of the International Conference on Number Theory held at Srinivasa Ramanujan Centre, SASTRA University, Kumbakonam on December 21, 2016. The other joint winner of this award, Dr. Kaisa Matomaki of University of Turku, Finland was unable to visit and will receive the award later.

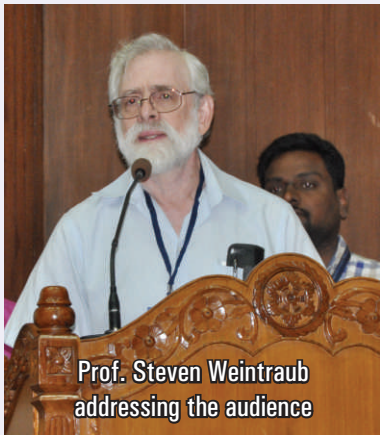
The SASTRA-Ramanujan Prize was awarded to them for their deep and far reaching contributions to several important problems in diverse areas of number theory and especially for their spectacular collaboration, which is revolutionizing the subject. The prize recognizes that in making significant improvements over the works of earlier stalwarts on long standing problems, they have introduced a number of innovative techniques. The prize notes that Kaisa Matomaki and Maksym Radziwill, through their impressive array of deep results and the powerful new techniques will strongly influence the development of Analytic Number Theory in future.

Prof. Steven Weintraub of Lehigh University, who is also the Associate Secretary of the American Mathematical Society, presented the award citation and the shared prize money of USD 5000 to Dr. Maksym Radziwill.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Weintraub added that Mathematicians are like sculpture specialists who work on making a huge piece of art work. "New generation mathematicians revolutionize and old mathematicians like me are fascinated by the work of Dr. Radziwill, Dr. Matomaki and others," said Prof. Weintraub.



Prof. Steven Weintraub of Lehigh University presenting the award to Dr. Maksym Radziwill



Prof. Steven Weintraub addressing the audience

The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize was established in 2005 and is awarded annually for outstanding contributions by young mathematicians in areas influenced by Srinivasa Ramanujan. Prof. Alladi Krishnaswami from the University of Florida, Chairman of Award Selection Committee read out the citation. He

complimented the award winners for their outstanding contribution and thanked SASTRA for choosing two recipients just as it did for the first award in 2005 when there was a tie between Manjul Bhargava from Princeton University & Kannan Soundarajan from University of Michigan.

The 2016 SASTRA Ramanujan Award Committee comprised Prof. Krishnaswami Alladi - Chairman (University of Florida), Prof. Henri Darmon (McGill University), Prof. Winfried Kohlen (University of Heidelberg), Prof. Hugh Montgomery (University of Michigan), Prof. Peter Sarnak (Princeton University and the Institution for Advanced Study, Princeton), Prof. Michael Schlosser (University of Vienna) and Prof. Cameron Stewart (University of Waterloo).

Prof.R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor presided over the award function. Dr. S. Swaminathan, Dean-Sponsored Research also participated.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUMBER THEORY

The 14th International Conference on Number Theory was inaugurated by Prof. Henri Darmon from McGill University on December 21, 2016.

The following mathematicians from Canada, USA, Austria and Columbia deliberated on various topics of high research significance during the conference.

1. Prof. Henri Darmon, Department of Mathematics, McGill University Canada.
2. Prof. Krishnaswami Alladi, University of Florida, USA.
3. Prof. Steven Weintraub, Department of Mathematics, Lehigh University, USA.



Prof. Henri Darmon from McGill University inaugurating the conference



From left: Prof. K.G. Ragunathan, Dr. Maksym Radziwill, Prof. Steven Weintraub, Prof. Henri Darmon, Prof. R. Sethuraman, Prof. Krishnaswami Alladi and Dr. S. Swaminathan

4. Dr.Gaurav Bhatnagar, Universitat Wien, Austria.
5. Dr. Maksym Radziwill, Department of Mathematics, McGill University, Canada.
6. Prof. Sujatha Ramdorai, Department of Mathematics, University of British Columbia, Columbia.

About 150 delegates from Indian Universities and research organizations attended the conference.



Prof. Krishnaswami Alladi handling a session in the conference

Srinivasa Ramanujan Birthday Commemorative Lecture

Dr. Maksym Radziwill of McGill University, Canada, the SASTRA-Ramanujan Awardee 2016, after receiving the award delivered the Srinivasa Ramanujan Birthday Commemorative Lecture on December 22, 2016. Dr. Radziwill who spoke on 'The Recent Developments on Mobius Function,' discussed the connection of the Mobius function to the distribution of prime numbers, some of the main problems surrounding the Mobius function and the recent progress on these questions which has been accomplished in his work with Matomaki.



Dr. Maksym Radziwill delivering Srinivasa Ramanujan Commemorative Lecture

Srinivasa Ramanujan Public Lecture

Prof. Sujatha Ramdorai, Department of Mathematics, University of British Columbia, Columbia delivered the Srinivasa Ramanujan Public Lecture on December 22, 2016. Students from various Schools in and around Kumbakonam attended the public lecture. Prof. Sujatha Ramdorai spoke on "The Mysteries of Primes." In her lecture, she outlined some number theory problems, especially those related to prime numbers.



Srinivasa Ramanujan Public Lecture by Prof. Sujatha Ramdorai

Previous winners of SASTRA-Ramanujan Prize

1. **Manjul Bhargava** (Princeton) & **Kannan Soundararajan** (Michigan) in 2005 (two full prizes)
2. **Terence Tao** (UCLA) 2006
3. **Ben Green** (Cambridge) 2007
4. **Akshay Venkatesh** (Stanford) 2008
5. **Kathrin Bringmann** (Cologne) 2009
6. **Wei Zhang** (Harvard) 2010
7. **Roman Holowinsky** (Ohio) 2011
8. **Zhiwei Yun** (Stanford) 2012
9. **Peter Scholze** (University of Bonn) 2013
10. **James Maynard** (Oxford University) 2014
11. **Jacob Tsimerman** (University of Toronto) 2015

The SASTRA-Ramanujan Prize continues its great tradition of recognising the most exceptional work by young mathematicians.



The foreign delegates and our Vice Chancellor at the bust of Ramanujan in SRC Campus

CHO RAMASWAMY CHAIR @ SASTRA

As a tribute to Cho Ramaswamy's multifaceted contributions to the cause of public at large and as a homage to him, SASTRA University has planned to create "Cho Ramaswamy Chair." The chair will be dedicated to public policy to undertake various activities that shall constructively shape the contours of India's multidimensional development through policy making.

In the passing away of Cho Ramaswamy, India has lost a nationalist polymath who excelled in more than one field with a rare combination of intelligence and integrity. To millions of his admirers from various sections of the society, Cho's shocking demise is a huge loss that is unfillable.

The objective of the creation of the chair is to conduct memorial lectures, discussions and research activities on public policy. Cho Ramaswamy was a combination of intellect and integrity, and as an immediate form of tribute SASTRA is creating the chair.



Shri Cho S. Ramaswamy
1934 – 2016

TRICHY CHAPTER OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF SYSTEMS FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (ISSE) INAUGURATED AT SASTRA

The Trichy Chapter of the Indian Society of Systems for Science and Engineering (ISSE) was inaugurated at SASTRA University on December 15, 2016. Inaugurating the Chapter, Dr. T. Ramasami, Former Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi said that system integration is an act of grouping together of different aspects of Science, Engineering and Management. The solar system in the universe, the ants and their behaviour pattern living in highly organized families and the human brain are some key examples of integrated systems, said the speaker.

Dr. Ramasami said that institutions, as assemblage of individuals serving a common cause, are examples of integrated systems. He concluded that system integration and management is more than a discipline of Science and it is a way forward to a larger society.

Shri P. Kunhikrishnan, President, ISSE and Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, in his introductory remarks said that ISSE is a professional body for interdisciplinary collaboration of systems science and engineering. The society is bringing together scholars and practitioners from academic, business and R&D organizations for promoting the systems concept. He commended that the Trichy

Chapter of ISSE is the first chapter with a strong base of more than 700 members on the date of inauguration.

Earlier Dr. S. Swaminathan, President of ISSE (Trichy Chapter) and Dean-Sponsored Research, SASTRA welcomed the gathering. Vice Chancellor Prof. R. Sethuraman presented mementos to the guests. Prof. S. Pugazhenth, Dean-School of Mechanical Engineering, SASTRA and the Secretary of the Chapter proposed a vote of thanks. Members of the Trichy Chapter of ISSE from various institutions and faculty members of SASTRA participated.



Dr. T. Ramasami inaugurating ISSE Chapter

RELEASE OF SASTRA LEGAL AID CLINIC DIRECTORY

(Detailed Report of 32 Legal Aid Camps)

&

LAUNCH OF "JUS-AS THEY SPOKE"

(DVD compendium of speeches delivered by Eminent Jurists)

by

Hon'ble Shri Justice SANJAY KISHAN KAUL

Chief Justice of Madras High Court

Shri Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Chief Justice of Madras High Court delivered the Knowledge Leadership Forum Lecture at the School of Law, SASTRA University on October 1, 2016. He also released the SASTRA Legal Aid Clinic Directory and launched "Jus - As They Spoke," DVD compendium of speeches delivered by eminent jurists.



from the students who raised queries on diverse and intricate aspects of Constitutional law, international law, criminal law and civil questions of dispute.

The SASTRA Legal Aid Clinic's Directory released on the occasion covers the student led efforts in ensuring legal literacy and facilitating legal awareness towards redressal of grievances in the neighbouring villages. 32 legal aid camps were conducted and over 3,200 petitions were received since April 2012. Shri A. A. Nakheeran, Principal District and Sessions Judge of Thanjavur, and Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor, SASTRA University were also present on the occasion.

Addressing students of the SASTRA School of Law and the legal fraternity of the Tiruchirappalli and Thanjavur district courts, Justice Kaul said that justice comes not only from the text, but also from the spirit of law. He underscored the need for professionalizing the legal profession by improving the quality of legal education. Speaking with factual and anecdotal emphasis, he observed that "justice also means justice within the time frame," and referred to the litigative culture of Indian courts, contrasting it with the global experience. He stressed the need for increasing efficiency as an index for systemic evaluation and traced the growth of interdisciplinary studies and the resultant specialisation which provided scope for a diversity of practice at the Bar.

The Chief Justice also commented on the salience of Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms as the method for avoiding delays and reiterated the "need to evolve a culture of settlement of disputes. Justice Kaul took questions



Hon'ble Justice Shri Sanjay Kishan Kaul handing over the first copy of the report of the Legal Aid Camps to our Vice Chancellor



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(A UNIVERSITY U/S 3 OF THE U.G.C. ACT, 1956)



KP 90 LAW & DHARMA
A TRIBUTE TO THE PITAMAHA OF THE INDIAN BAR

BOOK RELEASE EVENT IN HONOUR OF LEGENDARY JURIST SHRI K. PARASARAN ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

'KP 90 Law & Dharma: A Tribute to the Pitamaha of the Indian Bar' a book in honour of Legendary Jurist Shri K. Parasaran on his 90th birthday, published by SASTRA University, was released at a function organized at Sir Mutha Venkatasubba Rai Hall, Chetput, Chennai on October 9, 2016. A galaxy of legal professionals and concerned citizens of the society attended the programme.

Hon'ble Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, The Chief Justice of Madras High Court launched the book authored by three students from the School of Law at SASTRA University. This book release function was SASTRA's humble tribute to the doyen of the bar Shri K. Parasaran and the first copy was received by eminent legal educationist Prof.N.R. Madhava Menon.

Justice Kaul elaborated on the all embracing concept of Dharma and how legal professionals must revitalise themselves and that Shri K. Parasaran was a role model for worthy emulation.

Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, Chancellor-Central University of Chhattisgarh & NUEPA, in his felicitations was highlighting the need for legal education to be aligned with Bharateeya spirit. SASTRA University's Distinguished Chair Professor of Legal Anthropology and renowned columnist Shri S. Gurumurthy called for a deep understanding of the philosophy of law from a socio-cultural perspective and how India has the propensity to lead the world in this nuanced subject of legal anthropology.



Shri K.Parasaran in his benedictory address shared the standards of the legal profession with various anecdotes and was emphatic in his strong belief of Law being a subset of Dharma.

As a token of appreciation and encouragement, SASTRA University Vice-Chancellor Prof.R. Sethuraman presented to its students, the Chief Author Amrith Bhargav, a total fee reimbursement of Rs.3.55 Lakhs and to the 2 Co-authors Aishwarya Mahesh and Akshay Nagarajan Rs.1 Lakh each.

Dr.S.Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean, Planning and Development, SASTRA welcomed the gathering and Shri Mohan Parasaran, Senior Advocate proposed a vote of thanks.



13th NANI PALKHIVALA MEMORIAL LECTURE

Shri S. Gurumurthy, Thought Leader & Distinguished Research Professor of Legal Anthropology, SASTRA University, delivered the 13th Nani Palkhivala Memorial Lecture on November 29, 2016 at Vani Mahal, Chennai. Delivering the lecture on “Demonetisation – Causes, Concerns & Consequences,” Shri Gurumurthy said that there would be short-term suffering for all. The challenges before the Government is to see how to finance small businesses. Mudra Bank and NBFCs should be co-opted and more than one lakh delivery points of credit opened, said the speaker.



Shri Gurumurthy delivering the Nani Palkhivala Memorial Lecture

Terming low inflation and low interest rates absolute necessities, he said the November 8 demonetisation of high value currency notes will drive a healthy growth. It will be a huge challenge for the government.

Modi government had launched Mudra Bank in April 2015 to provide last-mile credit facilities to small businesses. The bank ran into issues with RBI on repayment of loans and regulations.

The demonetization programme would help remove black cash from the system. Black cash leads to creation of black money.

Cash as a proportion of GDP which was 9.4% in 1999 has risen to 12% now, while in the US it is 7.5% to 8%. “In 2004 the 500 and 1,000 rupee notes constituted 34% of cash; now it has risen to 87%. If we do not remove this black cash, we will never be able to do it,” said Shri Gurumurthy.

The benefits of demonetization includes end to terror funding and fake currencies. “Life in J&K is returning to normalcy now. How? They do not have access to fake currency to throw stones at Indian soldiers,” he said.

Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean-Planning and Development welcomed the gathering and Shri S. Mahalingam, Ex-CFO, TCS was the moderator.

LAUNCH OF NAMASTE AND TVS TYRE FINISHING SCHOOL

SASTRA - TCS Teacher Training Programme, “NAMASTE” (New Age Mantra for Smart Teacher Education) and SASTRA – TVS Tyre Finishing School Named TYRE (Trained Youth Ready for Employment) were inaugurated on October 11, 2016. Shri Sathya Narayana, Vice President HR, TVS Srichakra Ltd. inaugurated the programmes.



Shri Sathya Narayana inaugurating the programmes

NAMASTE Programme

The objective of NAMASTE is to train more than 3,000 school teachers in modern digital teaching methodologies over a period of 3 years in Professional skills (Course Management, Classroom Management, Assessment Techniques, etc. using online resources) Digital & ICT Competencies, Desktop Computing Skills and Personality Development. SASTRA has requested the TN Government to depute 35 teachers per batch for the one week training programme wherein a total of 45 teachers will be trained with free boarding and lodging at SASTRA campus.

SASTRA-TCS Teaching Learning Centre

For this programme, a 'state-of-art' Language Lab has been established at SASTRA TCS Teaching Learning Centre at the TIFAC CORE Block. The facility has got 45 computer consoles for the trainees and one trainer console containing Tablet with virtual board. A Lecture Capture System is installed at the centre. The lab is also equipped with a brand new projector, training material from Pearson Education, language lab software and headphone facilities. The lecture capturing system has been installed in four other auditoriums in the campus by which lecture sessions can be





scheduled and recorded. A studio setup has also been installed in TIFAC CORE auditorium.

So far, 135 teachers in three batches have successfully completed their training.

TYRE Programme

SASTRA and TVS Sri Chakra have jointly started an initiative to train 31 unemployed youth passed out in the years 2016 and 2015, from the branches of Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineering. The candidates were selected through an entrance test to undergo this residential programme for 6 months. They are being trained in their core technical subjects and communication skills, soft skills and managerial skills by the faculty members of SASTRA. Boarding, lodging and other expenses are sponsored by TVS Sri Chakra Limited. In addition, these candidates are provided Rs. 1500 p.m. as stipend during the period of the training programme.

A SASTRA students' campus company by name "Hearts on Hands," which is committed to sell novel greeting cards, was also inaugurated on the occasion. Officials from TVS Sri Chakra Ltd., Shri. Karmegam, General Manager – CSR, released the first greeting card and Capt. Venukumar, AGM – Marketing received the card.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ROBOTICS-CURRENT TREND AND FUTURE CHALLENGES-RCTFC-2016

An International Conference on 'Robotics-Current Trend and Future Challenges' - RCTFC-2016, jointly organized by SASTRA University and Plymouth University, UK with technical co-sponsorship of IEEE, was held on 19th and 20th December in the School of Mechanical Engineering, SASTRA University. The conference had 5 keynote speeches, 4 technical sessions comprising 21 technical papers, a robotics expo and a panel discussion. More than 250 delegates from various institutions attended the conference.

Keynote Speeches:

1. Prof. Guido Bugmann, Plymouth University, UK - "Who needs robotic technology."



2. Prof. T. Asokan, IIT Madras - "Autonomy for Robots- Challenges in developing fully autonomous robots."
3. Prof. Ramana Pidaparti, University of Georgia, USA - "Computational intelligence and future robotics."
4. Mr. Sudhir Reddy, Jay Robotix, Singapore - "Robotics: Opportunities unlimited."
5. Dr. David Jenkins, Plymouth University - "Inertial navigation for 3D mapping of vehicle trajectories."

The technical papers presented were from reputed institutions like IITs & NITs India and also from the USA and UK. All the papers passed through a rigorous double blind review and plagiarism check using Turnitin software. The presented papers will be included in IEEEExplore database.

The robotics expo had 18 robotic systems for demo and all the participants of the conference were much attracted to them. The panel discussion was very lively with the participants asking pertinent questions on topics like Robotics for human development, and the experts answered the queries based on their advanced technical knowledge.

2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON REGULATORY NETWORK ARCHITECTURE IN BACTERIA (RNAB-2016)

The 2nd International Conference on Regulatory Network Architecture in Bacteria was organized by Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID) in association with School of Chemical and Biotechnology, SASTRA from December 16-18, 2016. The conference aimed at bringing together experts from wide domains across the world to share



their experience and discuss the future development that will benefit the mankind.

Dr. Adline Princy, Convenor provided the overview of the conference.

The sessions on Host pathogen relationship, Deciphering quorum sensing, Regulation and transcription in bacteria, Antibiotic action resistance and persistence and Policy issues in drug development were handled by the following experts: Dr. T Ramamurthy, THSTI, Faridabad, Dr. C V Srikanth, RCB, Faridabad, Dr. Jayapradha, SCBT, SASTRA, Dr. Prince Sharma, Punjab University, Dr. Manoj Kumar, IMTECH, Chandigarh, Dr. Balamurugan, SCBT, SASTRA, Dr. Bianca Sclavi, FNCRS, France, Dr. Arati Ramesh, NCBS, Bengaluru, Dr. Varadharajan Sundaramurthy, NCBS, Dr. Deepti Jain, RCB, Faridabad, Dr. Ashima Bhardwaj, IJAR, Gujarat, Dr. Srinandan, SCBT, SASTRA, Prof. Chandramohan, SCBT, SASTRA, Dr. Anil Kumar, NII, New Delhi, Mr. Ramanujan KS, Bugworks India Private Limited, Bengaluru, Dr. Supreet Saini, IIT Bombay, Mumbai.

About hundred participants comprising researchers and students participated in the event.

EXECUTIVE EXPLORATION PROGRAMME FOR REGIONAL HEADS OF INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK

A three-day Executive Exploration Programme for Regional Heads of Indian Overseas Bank was conducted from November 25 to 27, 2016. Twenty-Nine Regional Heads from across India participated in the programme. Shri. R. Subramaniakumar, Executive Director (Additional Charge of MD & CEO), Indian Overseas Bank inaugurated the programme. In his address, he emphasized on the need for saving banks, and how bank employees should act as a catalyst for accelerating the business.

The following experts handled various sessions of the programme:

- * Shri R. Subramaniakumar, Executive Director, IOB - Laying down the context for the 3 day EEW
- * Shri C. Mahalingam, Renowned HR Advisor & Executive Coach Former Chief People Officer, Symphony Services - Decision Making during Turbulent Times – A HR Perspective
- * Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Professor of Management and Dean- Planning & Development SASTRA - Forces &



Values that drive an Industry Dr.G.Vijayaragavan, Professor of Management, SASTRA-Customer Relationship Management

- * Dr.J. Sethuraman, Professor of Management (ex-IOBian), SASTRA - Reinventing Business & Recapturing Customers
- * Shri S.Kamalesh, HP (Finnacle Vendor) - Finnacle Exploration
- * Shri G. Swaminathan, Non-Executive Independent (Part-time) Chairman, KarurVysya Bank & Former GM of IOB & ED of Canara Bank - Customer Experience: Past, Present & Future

Dr.S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, Dean-Planning & Development, SASTRA University welcomed the gathering and Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice Chancellor honoured the Chief Guest.

INTERFACE SESSION BY COMMISSIONERATE OF INCOME TAX

An Interface Session was organized by the Commissionerate of Income Tax (Exemptions) at SASTRA on October 21, 2016. Delivering



the key-note address, Shri RSVS Pavan Kumar, Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions), Tamil Nadu said that with the help of technology, compliance with income tax procedures could be achieved by non-profit organizations conveniently.

The purpose of the interface session was to make people aware of what the department looks for during the registration process for non-profit organizations and during the verification process, he said. The Commissioner dealt with the laws relating to charities, circulation of compliance questionnaire and registration of trusts. He advised the non-profit organizations to evolve systems of monitoring and control for internal purposes to ensure smooth compliance.

Technical sessions touching upon substantive and regulatory aspects of accounting, treatment of incomes, donations and corpus funds, withdrawal and cancellation of registrations of trusts.

Shri M. Kandasami, Chartered Accountant and Dr. S. Vaidhyasubramanian, Dean-Planning and Development, SASTRA also spoke.

Earlier Prof. R. Sethuraman, Vice-Chancellor, SASTRA University, welcomed the gathering and appreciated the efforts of the Commissionerate of Income Tax (Exemptions) for its transparency and proactive steps in dealing with trust exemptions.

The seminar attracted more than 300 representatives from NPOs, officials and chartered accountants from across the State.

21st STETSON INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The School of Law, SASTRA University hosted the prestigious 21st Stetson International Environmental Moot Court Competition, Surana & Surana India National Rounds in association with Surana & Surana International Attorney's, Chennai this year during November 25-27, 2016. Over 40 law schools from all over India participated in this event. The problem for this year dealt with Geo Engineering and Species. Five teams from the national rounds have been selected for the international round to be held in Florida.



The five teams are National Law University, Jodhpur, Symbiosis Law School, Noida, Gujarat National Law University, ILS Law College and School of Law, SASTRA University. Justice Dr. P. Jyothimani, Judicial Member, National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Shri S. Parthasarathy, Senior Advocate and Dr. A. David Ambrose, Professor & Head of Legal Studies, University of Madras were the members of the jury for the finals, which was held on November 27, 2016.

LAURELS IN MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

2nd Prof. N. R. Madhava Menon SAARC Moot Court Competition – India Rounds

SASTRA University Law School Moot Court Team comprising Chi. Kiran M (10thSem B.B.A., LL. B. (Hons.),



Chi Vikas M ((8thSem B.B.A., LL. B. (Hons.) and Kum. Harini V (8thSem B.B.A., LL. B. (Hons.) were ranked first and qualified for the International SAARC Rounds in the 2nd Prof. N. R. Madhava Menon SAARC Moot Court Competition – India Rounds on 3-4 December, 2016. There were a total of 28 teams that participated in the Competition, including five National Law Universities.

4th Lex Omnia National Moot Court Competition

SASTRA's School of Law team comprising Chi. Kiran M of V year B.B.A.LL.B (Hons.), Chi. Vikas Muralidharan of IV year B.B.A.LL.B (Hons.), Chi. Srinivas Krishnan of IV year B.Com.LL.B (Hons.) and Kum. Vaishali Sairam of IV year B.A.LL.B (Hons.) emerged the winners in the prestigious 4th Lex Omnia National Moot Court Competition – 2016 (on Constitutional Law Problem) hosted by BITS Pilani and NALSAR University held on November 3-4, 2016. The competition witnessed participation from over 32 law colleges from various parts of India including National Law Universities such as HNLU, RMLNLU, GNLU, RGUNL.



LECTURE ON SUPER COMPUTING



The School of Computing organized a guest lecture on “Application - driven future Super-computing” on December 2, 2016.

Prof. Dr. Dirk Pleiter,

Research Group Leader at the Jülich Supercomputing Centre (JSC) and Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Regensburg & Mr. Wouter Klijn, Research Assistant at the Simulation Laboratory of the JSC were the speakers. Dr. Dirk Pleiter initiated the lecture session with his research experience on exascale computing, energy-aware data centers and challenges in handling critical applications. Mr. Wouter Klijn spoke on the European Human Brain Project and shared his experience with two future supercomputing swim lines: homogeneous many-core architectures versus heterogeneous GPU-accelerated architectures. Mr. Ganesan Narayanasamy, OpenPOWER leader in Education and Research, IBM introduced the speakers.

SASTRA- TVS RESIDENTIAL TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TVS ENTREPRENEURS



The third and fourth batch of the Entrepreneurs Training Programme for TVS Car Service Franchisees were held at our Campus during October and November 2016, for 22 entrepreneurs.

Professors from School of Management and officials from TVS Automobile Solutions conducted the programme. It focused on imparting managerial and legal dimensions in entrepreneurship.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM BY BRIX NETWORK

In collaboration with Vedam Network Academy, SASTRA is conducting a 10 Month Skill Development Program to develop young engineering graduates into world class network & security professionals. Vedam has created advanced training facilities at a cost of Rs 8 Lakhs for students to undertake corporate live projects at SASTRA University. Classes will be held during weekends and after the college hours during regular days, without affecting their regular curriculum. The programme was inaugurated on October 14, 2016 at SASTRA University by Dr V. Badrinath Director, Training & Placement & Dean School of Management, SASTRA University.

Shri S. Jeyachandran, Director of BRIX Network and Shri Subhasish Gupta, Regional Director, India & SAARC - EXTREME NETWORKS were also present.

WORKSHOP FOR E-CELL LEADERS

Entrepreneurship Development Cell in SASTRA organised a two-day workshop for E-Cell Leaders at SASTRA Campus on 19th



& 20th December, 2016 in association with Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDI), Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai. 48 E-Cell student leaders from 22 colleges participated in the workshop. Dr. R. Venkatraman, Director, Shanmugha Precision Forging Ltd., Thanjavur inaugurated the workshop. Resource persons from School of Management handled various sessions. Shri R. Shivasankar, Assistant Director & PMO-IEDP, EDI, Chennai delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates to the participants.

PROGYAN

A national level intercollegiate management students' meet, organized by School of Management, SASTRA was organised on October 14, 2016. Shri K. Raamamoorthy, IAS (Retd.) Former Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala & Chairman Adjudicating Authority, Prevention of Money Laundering, Ministry of Finance, Government of India inaugurated the meet and spoke on the several opportunities available for students to prove their extraordinary skills in different domains.



More than 22 institutions participated in various competitions viz., Best CEO, Best CFO, Business Plan, B-Quiz, 4 P's & Operations, etc. Shri S. Jayachandran, Director, BRIX Networks, Chennai gave the valedictory address and distributed the prizes and certificates to the winners and participants. The students of NIT Trichy were the "Overall Champions" and the students of Gnanam Business School were the runners of Progyan'16.

VOICE FOR BT CONTEST

"Voice for BT contest," an intercollegiate public speaking contest on Biotechnology, was conducted in partnership with Novozymes on Oct 18, 2016. 20 students from different universities from South India participated in the contest.

Dr. V.Badrinath, Director – Training & Placement, Dean - School of Management, inaugurated the programme. Mr. G.S. Krishnan, Regional President, Novozymes India Pvt. Ltd., also spoke. Prizes were distributed to the winners.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY COURSE

A 7-day Research Methodology Course was conducted for those pursuing PhD at SASTRA University, between Nov. 29 – Dec. 6, 2016. The course aimed at introducing research methods through interactive sessions to early stage research scholars. The course included sessions on literature survey, identification of research gaps, critical reading, experimental design, scientific report writing, presentation and publication guidelines, safety and ethics in research. The course was attended by 65 participants from different schools including mechanical, civil, computing and electrical engineering. Faculty drawn from different schools acted as facilitators for the sessions. The course was coordinated by Dr. K. S. Rajan, Associate Dean Research, SCBT.

WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONALIZATION AT MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

Shri Raja Subramanian from Department of Training & Placement attended the 2nd Phase of the Workshop on Management of Internationalization at Manipal University, Karnataka from December 5-9, 2016. He was selected by Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienst (DAAD) Germany as a fellow from Asia, to attend this workshop.

SASTRA T&P DIRECTOR NOMINATED AS MEMBER OF EIRAC

Dr. V. Badrinath, Dean-School of Management & Director (T&P) has been nominated as a member in the "Research & Innovation Council of EDI," Govt. of Tamil Nadu by Shri K. Rajaraman, IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu & Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute.

SASTRA University earlier received the recognition as a hub of EDI to coordinate 25 colleges in this region. Many programmes are being organized by SASTRA to promote entrepreneurship at SASTRA and at the member colleges. SASTRA has also been empanelled as a member in "Udhayamita" scheme of Govt. of India to promote entrepreneurship at SASTRA. We have received Rs. 9 lakh funding assistance for conducting training for 3 years.

A research proposal on "The role of Self-Help Groups in implementation of MGNREGA Scheme in Tamil Nadu" submitted by Dr V. Badrinath has been approved by the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India & Directorate of Rural Development, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

STTP ON FORENSIC GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

A one-week Short Term Training Programme (STTP) on, "Forensic Geotechnical Engineering" was organized by the School of Civil



Engineering in association with IGS Thanjavur Chapter, in December 2016. Prof.V.K. Stalin, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Anna University Chennai inaugurated the programme. The STTP covered the various aspects of forensic geotechnical engineering.

Experts from industries viz AECOM India and KELLER India shared their field experience with the participants. 50 participants comprising faculty and students from various institutions attended the programme. Dr.G.Dhinakaran, Chairman of IGS Thanjavur Chapter was the Convener and Dr.C.R.Suribabu and Dr.Sujatha E. Ramani were the coordinators for the STTP.

FDP ON EMBEDDED SYSTEMS

A one-week Faculty Development Programme on "Embedded Systems - For a Connected Tomorrow" was organized by the School of Computing from 14th November to 19th November, 2016. The FDP focused on current trends in Embedded Systems, Embedded Security, Embedded Hardware Interfaces with RTOS, Image processing in Embedded Systems, Cloud Computing Interfaces and IoT.

Fifteen lecture sessions supported by eight hands-on sessions on ARM7: LPC 2148, MCB2370, Cortex M3-MCB1760, and Cortex M4- MCB32F00 were conducted. Both the lectures as well as hands-on sessions were handled by the Faculty members of the School of Computing, SASTRA University and a few experts from Embedded System industries.

Fifteen faculty members from nearby engineering institutions and five faculty members from SASTRA University attended the FDP. The FDP was coordinated by Dr A. Umamakeswari, Associate Dean, CSE/SoC.



CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF TAMIL SHORT STORY

The Department of Education, SASTRA organized a one day symposium on the Centenary Celebration of Tamil Short Stories on December 17th,



2016. Dr. M. Ramalingam, (Ezhil Mudalvan), a Sahitya Akademi Awardee, in his Presidential Address traced the growth and development of modern short stories in Tamil. He made an appeal to the Universities to introduce a Certificate or Diploma programme in creative writing in both English and Tamil.

Dr.U. Alibava, Professor and Head of the Department of Tamil, Dr. Durai Seenichamy, Emeritus Professor of Tamil University, and Literary Critic, Shri T.Ganesan, Media Expert and Former Station Director of AIR, Trichy, Dr. Arputharaj of Bharathiar University, Coimbatore and Dr. S.Thenmozhi,

creative writer and Dy. Commissioner of Commercial Tax, Tirunelveli expressed their views on Short Stories.

Dr. N. Seshadri, Director, Department of Education, welcomed the gathering and Dr.G. Venkatraman of Department of English proposed a vote of thanks. Faculty Members of Department of Education and English of the Main Campus and SRC, Kumbakonam, participated with their students.

SASTRA – DST INSPIRE INTERNSHIP CAMP 2016

SASTRA University organized the Department of Science and Technology (DST) – sponsored INSPIRE Internship Camp between December 26 – 30, 2016, for a second successive year. The INSPIRE Internship camps are part of DST's initiative to attract young talents for science at an early stage, and targets high school children. Around 80 high school students from schools in and around Thanjavur, Trichy, Thiruvarur and Perambalur districts were selected for this camp.

Prof. D. Balasubramaniam, L.V. Prasad Institute, Hyderabad inaugurated the camp, and addressed students on the history of science in fermenting scientific progress. The camp was addressed by eminent scientists from IISc, Bangalore, IIT – Bombay and Madras, Christian Medical College, Vellore, and Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai which includes, 2 Padma Awardees, and 5 Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awardees. Apart from thought provoking lectures, one to one interactions with mentors, hands on training and demonstrations in Physics, Chemistry and Biology were the key elements of this camp which kindled their interest in science and the pursuing of scientific career. In the evening, students participated in interactive sessions such as science quiz, critical thinking, and visited research laboratories at SASTRA. Students also participated in the “Scientific Solution to Global Problems” competition, wherein they presented novel ideas to solve issues on thematic areas such as Energy, Clean Water, Swaach Bharat, Second Green Revolution etc. Three novel ideas were selected and certificates of merit were distributed. Prof. P. Rama Rao, former Secretary, DST presided over the valedictory function and addressed the need for science to meet global challenges.



SASTRA'S VIDEO AND IMAGE ANALYTICS TOOL FOR HEADCOUNT AT MAHADEEPAM 2016



In order to help the Police and the District Authorities count the number of pilgrims attending the Thirukarthigai Mahadeepam

festival at Tiruvannamalai held on December 12, 2016, SASTRA University provided an advanced head counting tool. This video analytics tool was implemented for the first time during the festival. Initially this tool was used during the car festival of the Annamalaiyar temple. After that the team was divided into three for head counting from various places. One team at Annamalaiyar temple and two others at Girivalam path calculated the pilgrims, using the tool. The head counting information was computed at periodic intervals and transmitted to the authorities instantly. A Crowd Visualization Dashboard was also updated on SASTRA Video Image Processing (SVIP) website. The team completed the task successfully without any hurdles in spite of heavy rain.

A report was submitted to DIG and SP. Earlier Ms. R. Ponni, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Tiruvannamalai District had requested our Vice Chancellor to provide the tool and a team of faculty members for this purpose. During the Mahamaham 2016, the tool was successfully used by SASTRA for the counting of the pilgrims entering the Mahamaham tank.

A team of faculty members headed by Dr. N. R. Raajan of School of EEE involved in this task. The team was appreciated by the top officials of the Police department.



FDP ON FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



A two-day faculty development programme on the Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering was organized by EEE Department on December 13 & 14,

2016. Dr.B. Ilango, Former Vice Chancellor of Bharathiar University acted as the resource person for the FDP.

He discussed topics like Electrical Machines and Drives, Power Electronics, Circuits and Networks, Field Theory, Transmission, Distribution and Power Systems. Dr. Ilango also suggested to the faculty some potential areas for carrying out research. Faculty members of EEE, EIE, and ECE Departments from SASTRA main campus and SRC, Kumbakonam attended the programme.

FACULTY VISIT TO TOKAI UNIVERSITY, JAPAN

Dr. R. John Bosco Balaguru, Associate Dean (Research), SEEE, SASTRA visited Tokai University, Tokyo, Japan from November 5 to 20, 2016. He delivered two talks titled “Electronic Tongue as Health Guard” and “Nano-Bio-Sensors for Food & Water Quality Applications” to the Micro / Nano technology research community of Tokai University. Also, he had undergone training and hands-on experience in developing micro needles for environmental and biological applications. During this visit collaborative research activities, faculty and semester abroad programs between SASTRA University and Tokai University have been initiated.



WORKSHOP ON LEARNING BY DOING

The COSMOS Club organized a workshop on 'Learning by Doing' on December 28, 2016. Prof.T.S. Natarajan, Former Professor of Physics, IIT, Madras conducted the workshop. He demonstrated experiments based on various principles in Physics such as Bernoulli's theorem, force on inclined plane, low temperature physics (using liquid Nitrogen), Plasma lamp etc.

Students of I B.Tech., M.Sc.(Physics) and B.Sc.B.Ed. (Physics) attended the programme.

CARPE DIEM '16

Carpe Diem, SASTRA's Intramural Cultural Fest held on October 15-16, 2016, was a celebration of the collective talent of more than a thousand students, an explosion of variety in ability and a feast for the eyes of any onlooker. With every cluster taking it upon themselves to flaunt the best of their talents, bystanders were left awed, inspired and most certainly entertained to the maximum.



SCORE ACTIVITIES

DAAN UTSAV

Various programmes were organized on October 1 & 2, 2016 in view of Gandhi Jayanthi. SCORE volunteers provided lunch and conducted several competitions to the residents at an Old Age home in Kattur, Trichy. 40 volunteers from SCORE along with Bhumi, Trichy conducted competitions and distributed prizes to help the students of the home at Tamil Nadu Maanavar Illam Tiruverumbur, Trichy. They also visited the Government Higher Secondary School for Blind, Tanjore and donated stationery items for the students and took up a clean-up drive inside the school campus.



Around 15 volunteers from SCORE, under the guidance of Dr. R. Kavitha of School of Computing participated in the New Year day at Sri Selva Malar Home for Special Children (Mentally Challenged) in Thanjavur. Volunteers involved children in fun activities like mind games, singing, dancing, movie screening and dialogue recitation. They distributed chocolates, biscuits and snacks to the children. Volunteers have also donated stationery items and sanitary utilities worth Rs.2000 as requested by the authorities of the home.

VISION AMBASSADOR TRAINING PROGRAM

100 volunteers from SCORE and SASTRA ExNoRa from both main campus as well as SRC, with the support of the Sankara Nethralaya – Elite School of Optometry, organized The Vision Ambassador Training Programmes on October 15, 2016 at SASTRA campus. A team of doctors from Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai visited and trained the volunteers on how to do the preliminary vision screening and recording. The follow up of this programme is proposed to be held at villages and schools. The screening reports will be sent to Sankara Nethralaya so that they can identify people with eye defects and proceed for further treatments. On October 24, 25 & 26, Vision Ambassadors trained by Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai did preliminary vision screening for around 230 students in hostels and campus of SASTRA University.



CAREER COUNSELLING

A Career Guidance programme – “What after plus two” was organised for the benefit of the students of all the Higher Secondary Schools in Thanjavur District. It was conducted at three venues: SASTRA Thanjavur Main campus for the students of Thanjavur Educational District; Srinivasa Ramanujam Campus of SASTRA Kumbakonam for the



students of Kumbakonam Educational District; and SET Vidhyadevi Vidhyalaya Pattukkottai for the students of Pattukkottai Educational District. Guidance in opportunities available for Higher Education, How to choose the courses and the Institutions and the entrance exams for the respective subjects of studies like JEEE, NEET, CLAT, Veterinary, Agri., Fine Arts and for various professional courses like CA, ACS and ICWA, etc., were given.

VERMI COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

Under the guidance of Dr. Panchapakesan from SCBT, a hands-on training session was conducted in Vermi composting and Panchakavya on December 24, 2016, in which around 120 students participated. It was conducted to create awareness of Panchakavya, which is a concoction prepared by mixing five products of Cow like dung, urine, milk, curd and ghee. When the above 5 products are suitably mixed and used, these have miraculous positive influence on living organisms.

DIGITAL PAYMENT AWARENESS PROGRAMME



Around 120 volunteers of SCORE participated in the Digital Payment Awareness Program conducted in association with the Phoenix Association of School of Management,

SASTRA University. Dr. V. Srinivasa Kumar explained various digital payments systems and applications. 10 volunteers were selected for creating digital payment awareness to the villagers in Tirumalaisamudram and Kuruvadipatti next week.

TVS STAR TRAINING PROGRAMME

School of Management organized the TVS STAR training programme to train 32 MBA students for nine days in marketing field. Shri N. Palaniappan, and Shri Mathews Lan, Sales Trainers, TVS were the resource persons for the training. 17 students from Trichy office and 15 from Pudukkottai office in consortium with Ashok Leyland were deputed for in-plant training on 2nd and 3rd December 2016. Dr.V.Srinivasa Kumar, Associate Professor, School of Management coordinated the programme.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES AT SRC

The COM-MAN Forum of the Department of Commerce and Management Studies organized a debate on “The Impact of Demonetization on Indian economy” on December 27, 2016. Students from M.Com and B.Com participated in the debate. Shri. M. Narayanan and Shri. K. Chandrasekaran, Chartered Accountants, Chennai acted as the judges. The impact of Demonetisation on common man, on banking sectors and the other financial services, on consumer discretionary, GDP, Liquidity, Equity market and on the overall economy, figured prominently in the debate. Shri S. Kothandaraman, Department of Commerce coordinated the event.



ELCOM DAIS, the Association of the Dept. of ECE, organized a guest lecture on IOT (Internet of Things) on December 26, 2016. Shri. Sriram Ganesan, Senior Technical Lead, Analog Devices (India), Bangalore served as the resource person.

A Health Awareness Campaign was organized at Minerva Hr.Sec. School, Kadichambadi by the students of the B.Ed. Programme on November 22, 2016. Dr.M.R. Suchitra, Visiting Faculty, SASTRA inaugurated the camp with an



address on “Nutrition and Dietetics.” The B. E d. students organised various programmes on health and hygiene to the school students.

NSS AND NCC NEWS

The NSS Wings at SRC organised a Workshop on “Swachhata – Mobile application” on December 24, 2016. Dr. T. Prema, Medical Officer, Kumbakonam Municipal Corporation delivered a lecture on clean India and demonstrated the application developed for posting complaints online, using Swachhata mobile application. Complaints such as dead animals lying in the streets, dustbins not being periodically cleaned, garbage dump, non availability of electricity in public toilets, water supply in public toilets, public toilet blockage, public toilet cleaning etc., can be posted in the app. The app encourages the participation of the public in attainment of our National Goal. Dr. S. Meganathan, NSS Programme Officer organized the function.

'SSB Awareness and Training Program' was organized by the NCC unit of SRC on October 18, 2016 to create the spirit of

becoming an officer in Indian Defence Services. Col. CVS Kaushal, Commanding Officer, 8 (TN) BN NCC inaugurated the workshop. Col.G.Murali, former Interviewing Officer and Deputy President of SSB, Allahabad, Lt.Col.C.S.Jayavel, a trained Group Testing Officer from Defence Institute of Psychological Research and Mr.T. Ashokkumar, former Scientist, DRDO and Group Testing Officer served as resource persons and conducted SSB stage one screening tests, for the participants.

The NCC unit along with Govt. Arts College for Men, Kumbakonam, participated in 'Swachh Bharath Rally' on September 28, 2016.

Lcpl.S.Subash of III BBA participated in an Advanced Leadership Camp held at Sri Sakthi Institute of Tech., Coimbatore from December 3-14 2016.

SPCGS THANJAVUR DIVISION INTER-POLYTECHNIC TOURNAMENTS



Shanmugha Polytechnic College organized the SPCGS Thanjavur Division Inter-Polytechnic Table Tennis, Badminton, Chess & Carrom Tournament (Boys)

for the year 2016-17 at our campus on 26th December 2016. The following are the winners:

- Chess : Shanmugha Polytechnic College, Thanjavur
- Carrom : Chendhuran Polytechnic College, Pudukottai
- Badminton : Pattukottai Polytechnic College, Pattukottai
- Table Tennis : Chendhuran Polytechnic College, Pudukottai

33rd ANNUAL SPORTS MEET



The 33rd Annual Sports Meet 2016-17 of Shanmugha Polytechnic College for boys and girls was held on 14th & 15th December 2016. Shri.R.Chandra Mouli, Principal congratulated the winners. The prizes will be distributed during the Annual Sports Day.

Book-Post



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