



QUARTERLY

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

ALUMNI & EXTERNAL RELATIONS



Message from Dean, AER



It fills my heart with joy to present the alumni newsletter to you. We are glad to reinitiate this endeavor which will enable our alumni to keep abreast of the major events and activities at IITG, all the while bringing their news to our campus community, the students, faculty and staff. We hope that this newsletter will act as a bridge between our alumni and their alma mater.

In the recent past we have had several major events with our alumni, starting from the silver jubilee meet of the first batch of graduates, to the alumni awards ceremony celebrating the achievements of our very own alum. There are several more events lined up for the future. We are also glad to inform you that January next year, IITG is hosting a satellite conference of the PanIIT global event focused towards sustainability, and we look forward to the participation of IITG alumni in large numbers. Many other initiatives are in the implementation stage, and we will share the news with you when we have translated them into specific actions.

Continued on Page 2

INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE

• Institute's Alumni Award 2023

The Institute's Alumni Award 2023 Ceremony was held on 9 Feb 2024.

The winners of IIT Guwahati Alumni Awards 2023 are:

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

- Mr. Puneet Talesara, 2002 batch
- Mr. Prabhat Gupta, 2008 batch

YOUNG ALUMNI ACHIEVER AWARD

- Akshat Jain, 2017 batch
- Dr. Siva Teja Kakileti, 2015 batch

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

- Mr. Mohit Bansal, 1999 batch



Message from Dean, AER (Continued from Page 1)

Our institute has come a long way, and in the past 30 years, we have grown to a family of over 32000. The IITG Alumni Association has also emerged as a leader in the recent years, by spreading across the globe, and opening of new chapters worldwide. In doing so they have ensured that IITG alums will remain connected to each other for ages to come.

Here is wishing that in the coming months and years we join hands to achieve our collective dream of seeing IIT Guwahati, our alma mater, emerge as a global leader in academia.

• 26th Convocation of IIT Guwahati

A total of 2150 students (1682 Male and 468 Female) of IIT Guwahati received their degrees in various disciplines today during the 26th Convocation Ceremony.

The graduating students include:

- 932 B.Tech. and B.Des. students
- 655 M.Tech. and M.Des. students
- 277 PhD & Dual (Masters + PhD) students
- 182 M.Sc. students
- 54 M.A. students
- 34 MS (Research) students
- 16 MBA students

Vedant Gaurang Shah, B.Tech., CSE, Rethyam Gupta, B.Tech. EP, Arpita Ray, M.Tech.,GE and Pranshu Kandoj, B.Tech. CSE were awarded the President of India Gold Medal, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal, Governor of Assam PG Gold Medal and Governor of Assam UG Gold Medal, respectively.



• 31st Foundation Day of the Institute

IIT Guwahati celebrated its 31st Foundation Day on 1st September, 2024. Lt. Gen. Rana Pratap Kalita, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd.), and former GOC in Chief of the Eastern Command of the Indian Army and Shri Bhaskar Jyoti Phukan, the Managing Director of Numaligarh Refinery Limited graced the occasion.

The Director, IIT Guwahati, Prof. Devendra Jalihal announced the Alumni Awards 2024 on the occasion.



- **Orientation of newly joined students**

A week long Induction programme was organised for newly joined Undergraduate students which included a campus walk, a guided tour to various facilities available in the campus, fun sports and lecture by noted motivational speakers by Commander V. K. Jaitly and by Mrs. Princee Singh.



- **38th Inter IIT Aquatics Meet 2024**

The 38th Inter IIT Aquatics Meet, 2024 was held at IIT Indore. The team of Loba Agastian, Kushal Dornahalli, Bhargov Phukan & Shlok Suraiya of the Institute won medals.



IIT Guwahati Aquatics Team Men has won the 1st Runner's Trophy at 38th Inter IIT Aquatics Meet 2024 at #IITIndore with 4 Gold, 2 Silver 1 Bronze with 1 New Inter IIT Record.

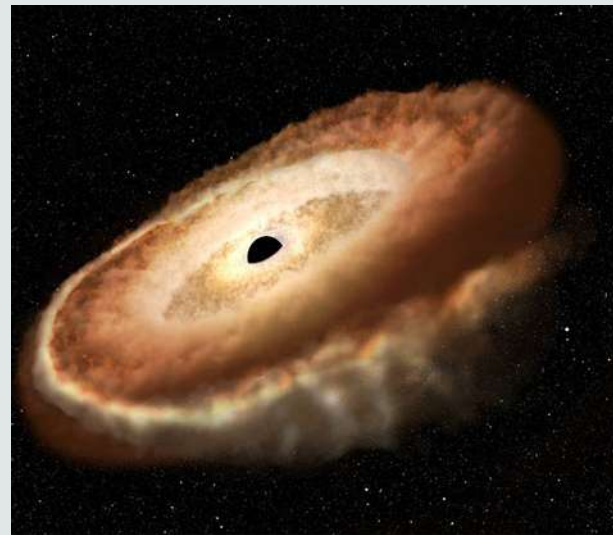


INNOVATIONS & DISCOVERIES

- **New Findings on Black Hole Binary System**

A multi-institutional research team including IIT Guwahati, U. R. Rao Satellite Centre, ISRO, University of Mumbai, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research has studied a newly discovered black hole. The team has discovered intriguing X-ray characteristics that can potentially provide insights into the nature of black holes.

The details of this work have been published in the prestigious journal, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, in a paper co-authored by Prof. Santabrata Das along with research student Mr. Seshadri Majumder from Department of Physics, amongst others.



- **Discover of RNA-Destroying Function of the p30 Protein in African Swine Fever Virus**

Prof. Sachin Kumar and his research scholars including Mr. Satyendu Nandy, Mr. Nilave Ranjan Bora, and, Mr. Shubham Gaurav from BSBE Department have investigated the biochemistry of the African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV) protein, focusing on understanding the biochemical processes of infection to devise effective control strategies. They have studied the proteins found in the outer membrane (capsule) of ASFV, with a particular focus on the p30 protein.

- **'LEAP': Advanced Machine Learning Framework for the Semiconductor Industry**

A group of researchers from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering have made significant advancements in the field of Electronic Design Automation (EDA) with the development of an innovative machine learning (ML) framework named 'LEAP'. The team members are Prof. Chandan Karfa, and Dr. Sukanta Bhattacharjee, and their BTech students Mr. Chandrabhushan Reddy Chigarapally, Mr. Harshwardhan Nitin Bhakkad.

- **Use of Microfluidics to Study Root Nutrient Absorption**

Prof. Pranab Kumar Mondal, Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and an associate faculty in the School of Agro and Rural Technology at IIT Guwahati, and his team leveraged microfluidics to gain insights into how the primary root emerging from a seed absorbs nutrients from the soil. They have developed a portable, cost-effective microfluidic system designed to replicate soil-like conditions. This system has demonstrated that optimizing nutrient flow can improve root growth and nitrogen uptake, leading to enhanced crop yields.



WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

- **Two-day workshop on surveillance of dog-mediated rabies**

A two-day workshop was organised on 25 and 26 July 2024 under the aegis of the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati in collaboration with Brooke Hospitals for Animals (India) and the Worldwide Veterinary Services (Mission Rabies) in the Banquet Hall of Hotel Palacio, Khanapara.



- **INUP Users Meet 2024**

IITG Guwahati proudly took part in the INUP Users Meet 2024, a prestigious national event co-organized by the INUP host institutes in association with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India. The INUP Users Meet held in August, 2024 provided a vital platform for innovators, experts, and stakeholders within the nanoelectronics ecosystem to exchange insights and discuss the expansion of excellence in nanoelectronics research across India.

- **FICCI Bharat R&D Summit 2024**

A summit was held on October 3rd & 4th, 2024 in New Delhi where a total of three innovations from IITG was showcased in the exhibition.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDINGS/AGREEMENTS

Airbus India and IIT Guwahati signs an agreement to establish a global training center in Guwahati focusing on aviation, logistics & aerospace technology, aiming to develop Assam as a logistics hub & create skilled workforce.



IIT Guwahati has entered into a significant partnership with the **Education Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre in India (TECC)** through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at enhancing cultural and educational exchange. The MoU, effective from 13th August 2024, marks a pivotal step in strengthening bilateral relations between India and Taiwan through education, language and cultural learning.

Several **MoUs with DBT** were signed towards fostering-

- A novel safe strategy to generate integration-free human induced pluripotent stem cells using Newcastle Disease Virus as a gene delivery vector
- Bioengineered skin equivalent for treatment of burn injuries
- Exploration of underutilized Amaranthus species for sustainable livelihood nutritional security and climate resilience of Western Himalayan Region
- The Structural and functional characterization of Type I-G CRISPR – Cas effector complex.

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed with **CSIR- North East Institute of Science & Technology, Jorhat** for the work package entitled, "Soil Fertility Test using Soil Organic Carbon Detection Kit: Capacity Building & Implementation in Assam, NE India.

India Internet Foundation (IIFON), Kolkata and IITG signed an MOA for co-operation between the two entities which would be of major benefit to the student community to enhance their skills and knowledge.

MoU with Northwestern University, Clark Street, Evanston, Illinois, United States in order to address the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), as applicable, and to protect the interest of both Parties.

MoU with Wageningen University, Department of Social Sciences, Netherlands, Linköpings University, Sweden to cooperate within the Project Peri-urban water regimes and nature (PeriNature) through exchange of information, research or other tasks, or through funding.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDINGS/AGREEMENTS

A consortium MoU was signed to cooperate within the Project Low-cost Disaster & Emergency Services for Communication at risk (in short LODESTAR) funded by DST and

- Wageningen University, Department of Social Sciences,
- Wageningen University, Department of Environmental Sciences,
- The Van Hall Larenstein Foundation,
- Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati,
- Indian Institute of Sciences Bangalore,
- CSTEP Bangalore,
- MetaMeta Research B.V. Netherlands and Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati.

MoUs with National entities

MoUs with national entities help build working relationships with various institutions in India including other IITs, CFTIs, educational institutions, industry and government professional societies and bodies. Four such MoUs were signed by the Institute in the preceding period with

- North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST) Arunachal Pradesh
- Nagaland University, Nagaland
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Guwahati
- Assam Academy of Mathematics, Guwahati

An MoU was signed between **IIT Guwahati and Visionaize Inc.** on 25/06/2024 to boost campus hiring and industry-academia collaboration.



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- **Educational Visits**

Educational tours by schools/colleges/universities to the Institute are coordinated by the Outreach Office. These tours inspire youngsters to pursue with sincerity education in general and science in particular. Over fifty such visits were coordinated by OEP Section during the period January to September 2024

- **Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan Projects implemented to Achieve Educational Excellence in Meghalaya**

Under the aegis of the Ministry of Education's Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan Projects, IIT Guwahati, in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha Meghalaya, has undertaken multiple state-level initiatives to enhance STEM education, foster innovation, and build capacity among students and teachers in Meghalaya.

- **Entrepreneurship Development Program**

In a bid to equip aspiring entrepreneurs with essential skills and knowledge to launch and manage successful businesses, the IITG Research Park Foundation has launched the "Entrepreneurship Development Program" (EDP). The initiative is in collaboration with the Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Assam.

- **Training Certificate Course on Drone Technology for Jr. Commissioned Officers & Other Ranks (JCOs-ORs)**

The program sponsored by the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR India), under the Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence, Government of India is specially designed for JCOs and ORs of the Indian Armed Forces to enable a smooth transition into the corporate world at various levels after retirement who aspire for a second career. It commenced on 9th September, 2024 at IITG.

A Science Camp under Vigyan Jyoti Programme (5-7 Aug, 2024) and Vigyan Jyoti Conclave for JNVs of the North East (10-11 Sept, 2024) was held at IITG Guwahati in collaboration with Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalay.



- **North-East NSS Convention**

The NENC (North-East NSS Convention) was successfully organised in the presence of Honorary dignitaries Shri. Jangjilong, Regional Director, NSS (NER); Smti. Vanita Sood, NSS Director (National), Shri Kausar Jamil Hilaly, Secretary, DoSYW, Assam; and Dr. Debanga Raj Neog, Programme Coordinator, during the opening ceremony held on 28th September, 2024.

ACCOLADES

- **Dr. Subhamay Saha, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics** received the Jyotiprasad Medhi Award in Mathematical Sciences".



- **Dr. Dipankar Mandal, Assistant Professor, School of Agro and Rural Technology** has been awarded the Planet Labs Education and Research Program grant.



- **Dr. Tanmay Dutta, Assistant Professor, in the department of Electronics and Electrical Engineering**, got selected as an Indian National Academy of Engineering Young Associate.



- **Dr. Debasish Borah, Associate Professor, Department of Physics** was nominated as Visiting Associate at Inter - University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) for a period of 3 years starting from August 2024.



- **Dr. Debabrata Sikdar, Assistant Professor in the Department of EEE** has been selected as one of the Emerging Leaders 2023 from the young researchers across the globe nominated by the prestigious Journal of Physics: Condensed Matters from IOP Publishing.



- **Prof. Kaustubha Mohanty, Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering,** has joined the Editorial Advisory Board of ACS ES&T Water and Journal of Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis (Elsevier).



- **Dr. Abraham Cyril Issac, Assistant Professor in the School of Business** of the Institute has been selected as the HR division Ambassador of the prestigious Academy of Management.



- The team from the **Consulting and Analytics Club**, was recognized as the first runners-up among all participating IITs at the 24-hour Pan-IIT Tredence Hackfest 2024. The team received a prize of ₹75,000. The "Retail Revamp" project focused on using AI for customer segmentation, personalized recommendations, and inventory management in the retail sector. The team from IITG comprised of Ashutosh Balasubramaniam, Jahnvi Kumar, Aditya Kanagalekar, Abhi Tanwar and Sumit Prabhakar.

- **Mr. Harsh P., M.Des 2nd Year student** has won iF Design Award (2024). This is one of the prestigious design awards in the world. He received this award for designing 'Biodegradable Toothbrush (Zero Brush) to deal Plastic Pollution'.



- **QuantSolar, an IIT Guwahati Technology Incubation Centre (TIC)** incubated startup, has won the prestigious Nina Saxena Excellence in Technology Award 2024 at IIT Kharagpur's 74th Foundation Day.

GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS

- **Visit of a delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand**

A 32-member delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand has visited IIT Guwahati on 24 September, 2024. The delegation of distinguished Professors and Scholars from over 13 universities and institutes of Thailand was led by Ms. Sasirit Tangulrat, Director General of the Department of South Asian, Middle East and African Affairs. The delegation was apprised about the various skill development programmes on Semi-conductors and other industries that IITG has undertaken. The delegates expressed that they are very enthusiastic about immediately starting exchange programs of Faculty members and Students with Thai Universities and Institutes of higher learning.



- **Visit of German Delegation**

A 9-member German delegation of representatives from the manufacturing, hospitality and healthcare sectors led by Mr. Jochen Renfordt, President of the South Westphalia Chamber of Craftsman visited the Institute on Friday, 31 May, 2024. The main objective of their visit to IIT Guwahati was to establish contact with young Indian professionals and to create the opportunity to present one's own region/institution and to network directly with Indian skilled workers and multipliers and provide job opportunities in Germany.

- **ICFAST and Visit of International Delegation, JSPS event**

The Indian JSPS Alumni Association (IJAA) organizes annual Science and Technology seminars, providing a platform for scientists from India and Japan to collaborate and discuss cutting-edge research. Sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), these seminars are held each year in India.

An International Conference on Frontier Areas of Science and Technology (ICFAST 2024), 14th India-Japan Science, Technology & Education Seminar was held on September 6-7, 2024, at IIT Guwahati. Designated activity during 'Japan Month' to advance bilateral relations between India and Japan across multiple areas.

In conjunction with the event, delegates from over 13 Japanese Universities and several South-East Asian Universities had a closed room discussion with the Director and Deans of IIT Guwahati on existing collaborations and possible future initiatives.



ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Announcement of IIT Guwahati Alumni Awards, 2024**

Mr. Saurabh Nangia Co-founder & CEO Mesh.ai & Mr. Aayush Thakur CEO & Co-founder FR8relay have been awarded the "Young Alumni Achiever Award" and Prateek Mittal, Professor in Princeton University has been awarded the "Distinguished Alumni Award" of the Institute for the year 2024.



- **IIT Guwahati Startup EvyEnergy Acquired by Zetric**

EvyEnergy, a premier e-Mobility software platform founded by three of our former students has been successfully acquired by Zetric, a leading provider of electric vehicle (EV) charging technologies. Co-founded by Mr. Tushar Bohra, Mr. Mohit Jain, and Mr. Bhabani Mohapatra, alumni of the B.Tech., batch of 2022, EvyEnergy began as a typical dorm room startup in 2021 and has grown into a leading player in the emerging eMobility landscape in India. The graduates created a software platform that caters to public charging, fleet charging, and destination charging with seamless payment options.



- **Distinguished Alumni Speaker : Prof. Vishal Monga**

Pioneering Signal Processing and Imaging Science Professor Vishal Monga, a distinguished alumnus of IIT Guwahati, has carved an impressive academic career as a faculty member at Penn State's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. With a research focus on signal processing, Prof. Monga has earned prestigious accolades, including the US National Science Foundation CAREER Award and Penn State's Premier Research Award. His contributions extend to 45 U.S. patents and leadership roles in IEEE's Technical Committees. Prof. Monga's passion for advancing imaging science and education has made him a key figure in his field, earning him the IIT Guwahati Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2022. His work is a testament to his commitment to pushing the boundaries of technology while mentoring future innovators.



- **Distinguished Alumni Speaker : Mr. Rajeev Dwivedi**

Revolutionizing Automation and Robotics, Rajeev Dwivedi, an IITG Mechanical Engineering graduate, has built a distinguished career in automation and robotics, currently serving as a Subject Matter Expert at Amazon. His entrepreneurial ventures, coupled with a PhD in robot-assisted manufacturing, reflect his deep expertise in the field. Rajeev's contributions



to warehouse and semiconductor automation have resulted in 42 patents and over 25 peer-reviewed publications. Beyond his professional achievements, Rajeev's passion for robotics extends to his personal life, where he enjoys building robots in his garage and volunteering for STEM education. His journey is a perfect blend of innovation, leadership, and a dedication to inspiring future engineers.

- **Distinguished Alumni Speaker : Mr. Ashish Kakran**

Shaping the Future of Venture Capital in AI and Cybersecurity Ashish Kakran, a VC investor at Thomvest Ventures, is leading investments in cutting-edge startups focused on cloud, AI, and cybersecurity. His pivotal role in funding groundbreaking companies like Cohere and Isovalent has solidified his reputation as a rising star in the venture capital industry. Ashish's insights into generative AI and his thought leadership, published in major outlets like TechCrunch and Forbes, have made him a go-to expert on emerging tech trends. With academic foundations at IIT Guwahati and further studies at Kellogg School of Management, Ashish's mentorship at Carnegie Mellon University demonstrates his commitment to guiding technical founders toward success.



- **Alumni Talk : Mr. Aayush Thakur**

Mr. Aayush Thakur, CEO and Co-Founder of fr8relay and Kavya Labs, an alumnus of IIT Guwahati from the 2010 batch and currently based in the U.S., was invited to give an inspiring talk titled "Beyond a Degree: Crafting a Career, Facing Challenges, and Shaping Your Future." **Mr. Thakur is also the recipient of the prestigious Young Alumni Achiever Award 2024.**



ALUMNI CONNECT

• Silver Jubilee Reunion

The first ever Silver Jubilee Reunion of our alumni which concluded on 4th August, 2024. 25 alums out of the 65 graduates who received their degrees in the first ever convocation of 1999, travelled to IIT Guwahati from across the globe.

At this event, Director, IIT Guwahati, Prof. Devendra Jalihal announced the launch of the Gurudakshina program for alumni and students of the institute to encourage them to give back to their Alma Mater. The afternoon saw a student-alumni workshop for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and network, held in the new SAC premises, followed by the showcasing of various student activities in the campus.



• IIT Guwahati Alumni meet at Bengaluru

A key moment in the event was the fireside chat on Generative AI (Gen AI), where experts and alumni discussed the disruptive potential of AI across industries. This session sparked thoughtful dialogue about how AI innovations can impact future business strategies, especially for entrepreneurs and corporate leaders alike.

One of the main highlights was the startup pitch session, where alumni founders presented their innovative business ideas to a panel of venture capitalists and angel investors. The session generated significant interest, and several startups walked away with valuable feedback and potential investor connections.

In addition to the sessions, discussions focused on creating a structured platform for continuous engagement between alumni startups and the investor community.

The IIT Guwahati Bangalore Chapter hosted its highly successful alumni meet on August 24, 2024, at Aloft, Whitefield, Bangalore and was attended by 250 alumni spanning batches from 1999 to 2024.



• IIT Guwahati Alumni meet at NCR, Delhi

On September 28th, 2024, over 130 IITG alumni from batches ranging from 2002 to 2024 came together in NCR for an unforgettable day of learning, laughter, and camaraderie! Senior alumni shared their invaluable experiences and insights from various industries, while recent graduates brought energy and humour with their entertaining campus stories.

The event featured exciting games, including a quiz that pitted senior vs. junior alumni, Dumb Charades with campus locations, and a fun “Guess the Place” challenge, adding a lively twist to the gathering.

Prof. Deepak Sharma, Associate Dean, Alumni and External Relations, attended the event, and reiterated IIT Guwahati's commitment to its alumni community.



• IIT Guwahati Alumni meet at Pune

The IIT Guwahati Alumni Association organised an alumni get-together in Pune on 31st August 2024 which was attended by a host of alumni in and around the city.

• IIT Guwahati Alumni meet at Mumbai

IITGAA Mumbai Chapter organized an Alumni Meet for IITG Alumni at IIT Mumbai. Dean AER, IITG, Prof Sumana Dutta joined the event and shared excellent insight on the activities at IIT Guwahati, collaboration between IITG and IITG Alumni Association. The event was full of jokes, laughter, great social & professional conversations and reminiscing IITG days.



APPOINTMENT

- **Appointment of Visting/Honorary/Adjunct etc. factuly members**

As on date IIT Guwahati has 73 members of visiting/adjunct faculty, Professors of Practice, Honorary Professors in various departments, schools and centres of institute.

STUDENTS' MOBILITY

- **Inbound students**

Total students registered in different programs in the year 2024 is 10 (Ten) and Short term visitors 30+ students.



34 UG Interns from **Hanyang University, South Korea**, Dept - EEE, CL; 22nd Jan to 29th Feb, '24



3rd Spring School 2024, Gifu University
MEXT funded; 4th - 15th March, '24

- **Outbound Students**

In the year 2024, total 75 (Seventy-Five) students have visited / will be visiting different Institutes abroad for Research / Internship/ Exchange program.

FUTURE EVENTS

- **Alumni Award 2024 Ceremony : 4th January, 2025**
- **Satellite of PanIIT global conference and Alumni Conclave : 20th, 21st January, 2025**

