



Alumni Link

A publication of the Global Alumni Association of
Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur

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Policy for accepting submittals for publication:

Please send your comments and relevant information/materials for publication to gaabesu@gmail.com and write "Alumni Link" in the subject line. The following guidelines are followed in accepting materials for publication:

- 1) Comments, observations, & suggestions about any alumni activities & BESU;
- 2) Personal and professional accomplishments that you want to share with your fellow alumni;
- 3) Local news, event announcements and event/chapter reports;
- 4) Batch news, event announcements and reports;
- 5) Looking for friends;
- 6) Looking for help;
- 7) Anything you feel appropriate for the alumni community.

As long as the message does not attack anyone personally and/or contain any hidden political agenda, we will publish them as-it-is. Electronic newsletters are published in every two months but alumni web site is updated continuously. You may submit your articles anytime.

Roles of GAABESU and Local Associations vis-a-vis BESU

Although one of the reasons for the formation of GAABESU was to give a hand to the BESU administration (which they did not care to seek) for a grand celebration of its 150th anniversary, its main purpose has been to help the Alma Mater in all possible ways so that it can regain its past reputation. There are numerous Alumni Associations of BESU throughout the world. Most members of such associations care for the welfare of the institute. In the past, a few of them have raised money for developmental works. Recently class of 1979 raised money to renovate a section of baby Slater Hall, to be used for extra-curricular activities.

However, it is difficult for individual small entities to undertake any big project due lack of resources. As there was no central organization that could coordinate all smaller entities and undertake bigger projects, GAABESU was formed to fill this void. Some associations unfortunately have not been receptive to this idea as they thought they will lose their independence if they join this global organization. Local Associations and GAABESU have different roles.

Local associations are mainly involved with the alumni in a particular community and arrange get-togethers, reunions, etc. They run their associations the way they see fit and do not have to follow the rules and regulations of GAABESU. GAABESU does not have any intention to be involved with their activities and dictate them.

Although local associations take pride in being a part of once-great institution, most of them do not show any interest to help the Alma mater which has been going through difficult time for the last 15-20 years. GAABESU hopes that the local associations would take interest in the welfare of the Alma mater and work with GAABESU to improve the condition of BESU. Since its formation, GAABESU has been successful in helping our Alma Mater in a larger scale. From yearly about 10 scholarships/year, GAABESU is providing close to 100 different scholarships amounting to almost Rs.10 lakhs for the last three/ four years.

In the most recent campaign to raise money for the documentary film by eminent director Mr. Buddhadeb Dasgupta, GAABESU has raised about Rs. 10 lakhs in less than three months. In addition, GAABESU will contribute between Rs 20 lakhs & 25 lakhs towards the renovation of the swimming pool which is in a very bad condition. It should be noted that GAABESU has also raised about Rs. 4.5 lakhs to partially fund (50%) the Guest Chair at BESU in two weeks. All of these show that we can achieve a lot in improving the infrastructure as well as the academic environment at BESU if we all work together.

It is my fervent hope that all alums irrespective of their involvement in local associations, will join GAABESU to make it stronger & effective. If one cares for the Alma Mater, he/she should work with GAABESU to make BESU a better place.

Note: The editorial is representative of the thoughts and beliefs of the editor and does not reflect the official position of the GAABESU.



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BESU ACTIVITIES

University-CII Collaboration Conference

The Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU) and CII organized a two-day university-industry council symposium with the theme 'Industry-Academia Collaboration for Quality Human Resource and R&D towards Sustainable Economic & Social Development'. Besides industry leaders and vice-chancellors, deans and professors from various universities, panelists from foreign universities in Israel, Singapore and Australia also attended this meet to share their experiences in industry-academia partnerships.



BESU came up with a national level Innovation Centre to provide a platform for inter-disciplinary teaching and research. This was the first time a state university in West Bengal ventured into innovation, fusing various technologies and aimed to produce Intellectual Property Rights and patents on such a large-scale. The Innovation Centre was managed by experts from the academia and the industry. It will act as a nodal centre for local, national and international collaborations. A separate building will be dedicated to the centre where students will take part in discussions and experiments. Its foundation was laid by Mr. Kapil Sibal, Union minister for Human Resource and Development at the University on August 1.

The University Vice-Chancellor, Ajoy Kumar Ray, said the centre will work on local, regional and national level. Each Local Innovation Centre will be provided with a separate Intellectual Property Rights office. On the first day of the fourth CII University-Industry Council Symposium held at the Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU), universities from Australia, Singapore and Israel evinced keen interest to collaborate with their counterparts in the state. Representatives of Deakin University, Melbourne, said they will involve post-graduate students of BESU in various research projects in Australia. The university is likely to take the first batch of students from 2010. Some foreign universities are also keen on involving PhD

and doctorate students in various projects in their universities. YS Rajan, Principal Advisor, CII expressed that the model was an emerging one, where the foreign universities that want to get into research with the CII industries can do so without getting into a university-to-university only link. [\[Click here for details\]](#).

GOI Grant for Prof. Santanu Karmakar

Prof. Santanu K. Karmakar reports that last year, he had written and defended a DST-FIST Project (GoI) to the tune of Rs 3.0 Cr. He has recently been informed that he would receive a grant of Rs 1.68 Cr. GAABESU congratulates Prof. Karmakar

National Workshop on Power Electronics at BESU

In Middle-July 2009, the Power Electronics Workgroup of the Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Bengal Engineering & Science University (B.E.S.U), Shibpur, Howrah organized a short term course on 'Power Electronics' under the aegis of NaMPET (National Mission on Power Electronics Technology), jointly with the Calcutta Chapter of the IEEE Industry Applications Section.

The course included lecture sessions and hands on laboratory experiments. Although, the instructors were mostly from B.E.S.U., there were a number of invited speakers from eminent engineering institutes including IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur and Jadavpur University (JU), Kolkata. Prof. Ajit K. Chattopadhyay, Emeritus Professor, BESU-EE department & Fellow, IEEE was the keynote speaker.



Prof. Ajit K. Chattopadhyay – addressing in the inaugural session as the Chairman, IEEE Industry Applications Calcutta Chapter



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Arsenic Remediation Guest Research Initiative

For four weeks in June three students from the University of Pennsylvania lived and worked at Bengal Engineering & Science University in Kolkata, India to contribute towards solutions for contamination of drinking water by arsenic, an invisible and slow-acting poison which is destroying lives of rural residents of West Bengal and the neighboring country of Bangladesh.

The Penn students, Alison Mora, Matt Owens, and Haresh Tilani are all pursuing degrees in both the Engineering and Business schools at Penn. Alison and Matt brought prior experience working with Arsenic filtration from a senior design project completed this past spring in partnership with the Penn spin-off materials science company Innova Materials. Haresh and Matt have worked in past years on water projects in Honduras and Cameroon as members of Penn's Engineers Without Borders Chapter.



Department of Architecture Seminar

Mr. Harry Schwartz, Urban Planning And Development Consultant, NEW YORK CITY and Adjunct Associate Professor, Graduate Program In Urban Affairs and Planning, Hunter College, City University of New York delivered a lecture on "changes in US cities since World War II" on October 21 at the alumni seminar hall. It was attended by the faculty members and students of the Department of Architecture and was well received.

An Appeal to Donate for the Documentary Fund

Our beloved Alma Mater, 2nd oldest Engineering College in India, is 153 years old now. It started at the Writers' Building and moved to the present site after passing through the Presidency College campus. The present site used to be historic Bishop's College campus where Michael Madhusudan Dutta studied. Since it moved to this location, the campus has gone through enormous changes.

Barracks were replaced by hostels and a few hostels subsequently became classrooms. Downing Hall has become Staff quarter whereas Pandya Hall that housed post-graduate students is now Lady's Hostel.

Our Alma Mater has a long and rich history. Unfortunately, the great traditions of this institute and the history of the changes at the campus have not been formally recorded and as such, are not even known to lot of alums where they have spent probably the best several years of their lives. In addition, a lot of students while selecting school to pursue engineering program are not aware of BESU's rich history, its contribution to the engineering education in India and what it means to attend this great institute and be known as BESU alum. In order to make every member of the BESU community aware of its rich heritage, the administration has decided to make a documentary on our beloved college and make it available to the community.

This documentary will include past history of the institute from the days gone by, its contribution in imparting engineering education in India and a glimpse of the campus life in a typical academic year, seen through the eyes of an artist. BESU administration requested the eminent movie director, Mr. Buddhadeb Dasgupta, to take responsibility of this task which he has graciously agreed. Mr. Dasgupta has planned to make a 40-minute video documentary on our Alma Mater. He has already shot a no. of events at the campus and plans to do more as year progresses. It will cost about INR 15 lakhs to complete the project.

However, government money is not available to fund such projects. In absence of Government sponsorship for this activity, we see two options - seek out private funding and/or seek out help from our alums. As private funding may come with restrictions that may compromise the integrity of the institute, we feel, it is better if alums sponsor this activity.

All alumni/ alumnae will have an opportunity to be a part of this historic event. In addition, each alumnus/alumna may get Income Tax benefit (where applicable) for their generous donation. BESU administration also plans to acknowledge donors in the video based on the contributions made (at least USD 100.00 for NRI alums from Western Countries, at least INR 2000.00 for alums in the Middle-East and at least INR 1000.00 for alums from the sub-continent) and provide a copy of the video.

We, on behalf of the University and Global Alumni Association, request all alumni/alumnae to generously donate for this unique project that will trace back to the past and preserve the history for the future generations. Please donate generously. We are counting on your generosity.



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Global Coordinators: GAABESU Corpus Fund Sub-Committee Champions

- Mr. Arun Ghosh, '61MET, Canada, Email: aghosh@cogeco.ca
- Mr. Shyamal Kr. Mitra, '67CE, Kolkata, India, skma33@gmail.com

Local Representatives

- Kolkata, India: Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal, '57CE, A permanent invitee to EC and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: gamitabha@yahoo.com
- BESU Campus, India: Prof. Gautam Bhattacharya '77CE, GAABESU EC Member and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: bhattacharyag@gmail.com
- Mumbai, India: Mr. Sukanta Roy, '77ETC, GAABESU EC Member and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: skroy56@yahoo.com
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- Bangalore, India: Ms. Kabita Jha, '81ETC, GAABESU EC Member, Email: kabita_jha@gmail.com
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- Oman :Mr. Rajdeep Dutta '88EE, GAABESU EC Member, Email: rajdeep.88ee@gmail.com
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- UK: Dr. Nandalal Ghosh '63CE, A permanent invitee to EC, Email: nanda.ghosh@yahoo.co.uk
- USA: Mr. Amitabha Chatterjee, '83EE, GAABESU EC Member and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: achatterjee@yahoo.com
- USA: Mr. Bhaskar DasGupta, '81EE, GAABESU EC Member and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: bhaskar@dasguptas.com
- USA: Dr. Swapan Saha, '88EE, A permanent invitee to EC and Corpus Fund Sub-committee member, Email: swapan_saha@yahoo.com

List of On-line Donors (as of Aug 29 2009)

- Arun Deb, 57CE, PA, USA, USD100.00, 22-Aug-2009
- Swapan Saha, 88EE, CA, USA, USD100.00, 22-Aug-2009
- Arunava Biswas, 94ETC, Norway, USD200.00, 23-Aug-2009
- Dipak Bhattacharya, New Delhi, India, USD 25.00, 23-Aug-2009
- Sudip Majumder, 82EE, CA, USA, USD 250.00, 24-Aug-2009
- Susobhan Ghosh, 69CE, TX, USA, USD 100.00, 26-Aug-2009

- Biman Ghosh, 81MET, OH, USA, USD 100.00, 28-Aug-2009
- Anindya Sankar Chattopadhyay, 04IT, Australia, USD 41.00, 29-Aug-2009

List of Donors by USD Cheque/Draft (as of Aug 28, 2009)

- Saroj Bhol, 65CE, NJ, USA, USD 100.00, 28-Aug-2009

Fund-raising has been closed on 15th of October. Fun-raising sub-committee is the process of preparing the list of all donors. It will be published in the next newsletter and will also be posted in the web site

GAABESU ACTIVITIES

GAABESU Elects New EC, Office Bearers for 2009-11

GAABESU was formed and registered as per West Bengal Societies Act XXVI of 1961 Vide Registration no S/IL/29880 of 2005-2006 dated 10th June, 2005. After two years, at GAABESU Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) held on June 13 2009, Chairman, GAABESU EC Election Commission announced the new EC members elected by GAABESU members. Subsequently, the elected EC members selected new office bearers for 2009-11.

Newly elected GAABESU Office Bearers for 2009-11

- Dr. Arun Deb - President
- Prof. Gautam Biswas - Vice President
- Mr. Syama Prasad Datta - Working President
- Prof. Aditya Bandyopadhyay - Hony. Secretary
- Prof. Gautam Bandyopadhyay - Hony. Jt. Secretary
- Prof. Indranath Sinha - Treasurer
- Mr. Amitabha Datta - Hony. Asst. Secretary

Newly elected Executive Committee (EC) Members (sorted by seniority) for 2009-11

- Dr. Arun Deb, '57CE, PA, USA
- Mr. Arun K Ghosh, '61MET, ON, Canada
- Dr. Prabir Neogi, '62CE, ON, Canada
- Mr. Shyamal K Mitra, '67CE, WB, India
- Mr. Syama P Datta, '67CE, WB, India
- Mr. Ananta Deb Dutta, '73CE, Delhi, India
- Mr. Amitabha Datta, '74CE, WB, India
- Mr. Dipankar Mukherjee, '74CE, WB, India
- Prof. Nil R Bandyopadhyay, '75MET, WB, India
- Prof. Gautam Bandyopadhyay, '76EE, WB, India
- Lt. Col. (Retd.) Anjan K Ghosh, '76ETC, WB, India



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- Prof. Gautam Bhattacharya, '77CE, WB, India
- Mr. Sukanta K Roy, '77ETC, Maharashtra, India
- Prof. Aditya Bandyopadhyay, '79ARCH, WB, India
- Prof. Gautam Biswas, '79ME, UP, India
- Mrs. Sumitra Sinha, '79ETC, NJ, USA
- Prof. Soumitro Banerjee, '81EE, WB, India
- Mr. Bhaskar Dasgupta, '81EE, NJ, USA
- Mrs. Kabita Jha, '81ETC, Karnataka, India
- Prof. Indranath Sinha, '82MIN, WB, India
- Mr. Amitabha Chatterjee, '83EE, NJ, USA
- Prof. Santanu K Karmakar, '83ME, WB, India
- Prof. Indranil Manna, '83MET, WB, India
- Mr. Sudipta Mukherjee, '83ME, WB, India
- Mr. Rajdeep Dutta, '88EE, Oman
- Mr. Arindam Mukhopadhyay, '90ME, NJ, USA
- Mrs. Tanusree Chakraborty, '91CE, UAE

Seminar by Niladri Sannigrahi, '01CE

GAABESU member Mr. Niladri Sannigrahi of Stockton, California, gave a seminar on "Transportation Around the World and USA" on October 13, 2009 at the Civil Engineering Department Seminar Hall. It was attended by about 100 people including students & faculty members. During the question and Answer period, he answered questions regarding graduate study programs in US universities.

ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Bimal K. Bose, '56EE, Felicitated for Lifetime Achievements

Submitted by Tapan Mukherjee, '72EE



As a leading figure in the broad area of industrial electronics, Dr. Bimal K. Bose has made outstanding contributions in the fields of power electronics and motor drives.

Dr. Nihar Biswas, '70CE, Recognized for Professional Excellence

Submitted by Arun K Ghosh, '61MetE



The distinction of Fellow of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering has been conferred on Nihar Biswas in recognition of his excellence in engineering and for services rendered to his profession and to Canada. He is currently Senior Associate Dean of Engineering (Research and Planning), University of Windsor. Dr. Biswas is a lifetime member of GAABESU and he was instrumental in setting up collaboration of BESU with Windsor University.

Dr. Himangshu Banerjee, '59CE elected one of the Governors of ASCE

Submitted by Tarun Basu, '67CE

Dr. Banerjee has just been elected one of the two Governors of the American Society of Civil Engineers from Region 10 for a period of three years. Region 10 covers Australia, New Zealand South-East Asia. He got maximum no. of votes and defeated another Bengali Mr. Pritam Ghosh in the election. After graduating from B.E. College, he got master's and PhD from IIT-KGP and University of Glasgow respectively. Returning to India from Glasgow, he taught at BEC till 1972. He then emigrated to Australia where he earned an MBA. There, he taught at different universities for few years and then joined consulting company. Presently, he is a Senior Structural Consultant Engineer at Worley Parsons, Resources & Energy.



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S.S. Chakraborty, FNAE, '57CE delivers Special Lectures

Submitted by Gautam Bhattacharya, '77CE

Under the AICTE-INAE distinguished Visiting Professorship Scheme, Mr. Sudhangshu S. Chakraborty, Fellow, National Academy of Engineering, and Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Consulting Engineering Services (India) Private Limited delivered Special Lectures at BESU, Shibpur; one on September 1 in the evening and the second one on September 2 in the morning at the Alumni Seminar Hall, Science and Technology Building.

On the first day he talked in the area of "Seamless Engineering. He said that Leveraging expertise across disciplines underpins "seamless engineering". A holistic approach promotes knowledge-diversity, and motivates cross-fertilization, beyond engineering partitions.

On the second day, his topic was "Emerging Areas in Engineering". He told the gatherings described how engineering emerges through a fusion of engineering issues, business matters and social concerns. Engineers may look at the issues through the prisms of various securities: habitat, food, energy, water, climate and others. Adopting "Green Building" concepts, which focus on resource consumption, energy efficiency and minimizing waste generation, lead to building sustainable habitats.

Dr. Tapan Datta, '62CE Informs Availability of Funding

Reported by Jyotirmoy Mazumder, '72MetE

Dr. Datta has informed one of the PIs of GAABESU EC that he has fund for providing financial assistantships to students who would like to pursue graduate study in Transportation Engineering in the Civil Engineering Department of Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Datta who is a professor the said university, is an authority in the area of Transportation Engineering. If any one from BESU is interested in pursuing graduate study in that area, please contact him via e-mail (tdatta@eng.wayne.edu). One of Prof. Datta's master's students from BESU, Niladri Sanigrahi, recently gave a seminar at BESU.

Dr. Nihar Biswas' ('70CE) team helps cut pollution flow to Detroit River

Under the direction of Dr. Nihar Biswas who is the University Professor and Sr. Associate Dean, a team of students and faculty researchers of the University of Windsor with some help from Stantec Consulting, found a better method of treating the mix of storm and sewage water from the City of Widsor that often overflows into the

Detroit River during heavy storms, thus saving money and cutting down pollution flow.

Crews will install a massive retention treatment basin under the parking lot on Riverside Drive, said Greg St. Louis, a project manager with the city and one of Biswas' former students. The project, funded in part by the Canadian Government's federal infrastructure stimulus plan, will cost about \$60 million, but could have been twice as much if not for the University's involvement, St. Louis said.

Currently, a sewer interceptor system captures the effluent, and pipes that to the Lou Romano treatment facility on the city's west end. During heavy rainfall, however, the system often overflows and the effluent spills over into the river. St. Louis said that happens close to 50 times a year.

The new basin, which St. Louis said will be about the size of a football field, will dramatically cut down on those overflows. Biswas' team improved the design of the basin and refined a process that relies on polymers to separate the sewage, forcing the heavy solids to settle to the bottom and the cleaner water to the top. If there are any overflows into the river, it will be the cleaner water, while the solids are pumped out to the treatment facility.

CHAPTER/BATCH NEWS

Canada Chapter - Alumni Picnic 2009

Reported by Pradip Saha, '90EE

BESU Alumni and their families in Canada Chapter enjoyed their annual picnic with the usual fun and enthusiasm. The organization members are very active in different activities like networking, mentoring, providing helping hand to newcomers to get settled in Canada etc. The picnic was a great success with games, fun activities and great food.





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Second Annual Cultural Evening, BESU UAE

Reported by Tanusree Chakraborty, '91CE

BESU Alumni in UAE is known as BESU Poribaar UAE and to keep the family tradition alive, the BESU Alumni and their family arranged for another fulfilled cultural evening on 29th May, 2009 at Dubai Grand Hotel. The program had the rich cultural flavor presented through songs, dramas and recitals by the alumnus and their family. The evening ended with a gala dinner accompanied by some on-stage performance of old Bengali songs which everybody enjoyed and also did set the audience in motion.

The vote of thanks rang the bell for next year's countdown to begin.



Tarun-da was a perfect gentleman and always extended helping hand to his friends and fellow alumni. He was an avid Bridge Player and won many trophies and prizes. He was an impeccable dresser and was often referred to as Sir T.K.

He would have been 80 this November and his 50th wedding anniversary was also in end of November. He deprived immensely his family and friends of the special pleasure of celebrating both the occasions. He leaves behind a whole host of friends, and family to mourn the loss. May his soul rest in eternal peace!

On behalf of Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science University (GAABESU), I express my sincere condolences to his wife Chhanda-Boudi, two sons and a daughter. May God give them strength to cope with this grief!

Arghya Kamal Chakraborty, '04 MetE

Reported by Ambarish Pandey, '06IT

Arghya Kamal Chakraborty breathed his last on September 28, 2009. He was working in Ernst & Young. May his soul rest in peace.

Prof. Jamini K. Das, '62EE

Reported by Santanu K. Karmakar, '83ME

Prof. Jamini K Das passed away on September 26, 2009 at his residence. He returned home only a week ago after visiting his children in the USA.

Prof. Das joined BE College after getting his BE degree. He got Master's and Doctorate degrees while teaching at BEC. In eighties, he left BEC and joined Delhi College of Engineering and later became Founding Director of Kolaghat Engineering College. He was a Permanent Invitee in GAABESU EC. Prior to that, he conducted election for EC.

On behalf of Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science University (GAABESU), we express our sincere condolences to the families and friends in grief. May his soul rest in eternal peace!

Prof. Suman Banerjee, '87MinE

We are sorry to hear that Suman Banerjee is no more with us. He was a faculty member in the Dept. of Mining Engineering. May his soul be in peace.

OBITUARY

Tarun Kumar Basu, '54 CE (1929-2009)

Reported by Arun Deb, '57CE

With great sadness, I would like to announce that our beloved Tarun Kumar Basu 1954 CE, of Salt Lake Kolkata passed away on 10 August, 2009 at a Kolkata hospital.

Tarun Kumar Basu was born in Kolkata in 1929. After graduation from Bengal Engineering College in 1954 in Civil Engineering, he spent his entire professional career working for the Public Health Engineering Department of the Government of West Bengal. He came to the United States of America a couple of times on WHO Fellowships. He retired as a Chief Engineer of Calcutta Municipal and Sanitation Authority (CMWSA). He was one of our earlier members of GAABESU and was very enthusiastic about all alumni issues. He was a very active member of the Salt Lake B. E. College Ex-Students Club.



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A. ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST FORM

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Department*:	<input type="text"/>
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- 3) Fax: 91-33-26684564
- 4) Postal Mail: GAABESU, Guest House, Bengal Engineering and Science University, P.O. Botanic Garden, Shibpur, India, 711 103

B. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

(Tick relevant item(s))

- I am not a member of GAABESU. I like to become a (life/annual) member. Please advise me how to become a member.
- I am an annual member and I like to pay for another term/upgrade to life membership. Please let me know how to pay my membership fees.
- I am interest to know more about GAABESU Scholarship Programme.
- I am interest to know more about GAABESU Mentorship Programme.
- I am interest to know more about GAABESU Emergency Fund Programme.
- I am interest to know more about GAABESU Corpus Fund.
- I am interested in visiting BESU campus/delivering a seminar/workshop.

PUBLISHED BY

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TARUN BASU, '67CE, '70ME

ASSISTANT EDITORS:

TANUSREE CHAKRABORTY, '91CE

DEBARGHA SENGUPTA, '98ARCH

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