



Alumni Link

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

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Distinguished Alumni

It is now a custom in all universities and colleges in North America to give "Distinguished Alumni" award to the alums who enhanced the reputation of their Alma Maters by their professional achievements and by being leaders in their chosen professions (it could be in education, business, politcs, social service or similar areas). However, all of them must show integrity in their characters. Normally, institution's community at large (alums, students, faculty members and administration) submit their suggestions and the candidates are picked up from them.

In India, some of the institutions like IITs have started this custom to recognize their alums. I believe our Alma Mater started to give this kind of award once it became a self-governing instituion (Deemed University/then University). However, the similarity ends here. Nobody knows how these awardees are chosen at BESU. This question has arisen due to the fact that one such recent awardee has been convicted of bribery and has been sentenced for jail time. It was rather puzzling why this person was awarded such honor when alums around Calcutta knew that a case against him has been pending for thirty years! Did anybody care to check his overall record? It is embarrassing not only to BESU administration but also to the entire BESU community. Then there is another instance of giving this award to a person who already got this award some time back. It appears that the selection process has been really bad at BESU. Had the administration requested nominations from the community at large, it would have found more deserving candidates compared to those who were chosen. Are the candidates not vetted properly? It is our hope that BESU administration will learn its lesson from this episode and choose the awardees carefully. The administration must verify the claims (number of papers published, patents received, positions held, volume of business created, other honors awarded, etc.) of the alum's accomplishments and most of all ensure the integrity of his/her character.

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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.



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GAABESU NEWS

Election of Executive Committee

GAABESU members spanning six decades and three continents have elected a new executive committee consisting of 27 members. A commission headed by Dr. Dipak K. Sengupta('65CE) conducted the election. The old executive committee (EC2) handed over the responsibilities to the new one (EC3) in a joint meeting held on July 23. EC3 has elected new office-bearers whose names and e-mail addresses, along with those of the other EC members have been e-mailed to all GAABESU members. The new committee starts its work immediately. Please e-mail your concerns or suggestions regarding GAABESU's activities or how it can better serve our Alma Mater and the BESU community at-large directly to the members.

1. President - Syama Prasad Datta ('67CE)
2. Vice-President - Biman Ghosh ('81MetE)
3. Hony. Seceretary - Aditya Bandyopadhyay ('79Arch)
4. Treasurer - Pratik K. Datta ('90MinE)
5. Hony. Jt. Secretary - Amitabha Datta ('74CE)
6. Hony. Asstt. Sec - Chandan Chowdhury ('76ME)
7. Somnath Sinha Ray ('87 Arch), Howrah
8. Arun Kumar Deb ('57 CE), PA, USA
9. Arun Kumar Ghosh ('61 MetE), ON, Canada
10. Prabir Kumar Neogi ('62 CE), ON, Canada
11. Bhaskar Dasgupta ('81 EE, NJ, USA
12. Susobhan Ghosh ('69 CE), TX, USA
13. Tarun Basu 67 CE, TX, USA
14. Nandalal Ghosh 63 CE, UK
15. Amitabha Chatterjee ('83 EE), NJ, USA
16. Amal Kanti De ('67 CE), NS, Canada
17. Sumitra Sinha 79 ETC, NJ, USA
18. Dhruvajyoti Guha ('02ME), Kolkata
19. Sujoy Majumdar ('90 Arch), UAE

20. Amitava Roy ('90 Arch), BESU Campus
21. Arup Sarkar ('85 Arch), BESU Campus
22. Koustuv Debnath ('97 ME), BESU Campus
23. Keya Mitra ('85 Arch), BESU Campus
24. Samarjit Chatterjee ('62 CE), Delhi
25. Indranath Sinha ('82 MinE), BESU Campus
26. Asim Deb ('77 ETC), Mumbai
27. Santanu Saha ('05 CE), Kolkata

The newly formed Executive Committee invited following alums to be Permanent Invitees:

1. Achyut Ghosh ('61 ME)
2. Amitabha Ghoshal ('57 CE)
3. Anjan Ghosh ('76 ETC)
4. Arya Sengupta ('66 ME, Delhi)
5. Arindam Mukherjee ('90 ME), NJ, USA
6. Banibrata Mandal ('84 CE, Delhi)
7. Dhiraj Chanda ('56 CE), NJ, USA
8. Gautam Bandyopadhyay ('76 EE)
9. Jyoti Mazumdar ('72 Met), MI, USA
10. Jyoti R Sengupta ('54 CE), ON, Canada
11. Nihar Biswas ('70 CE), Canada
12. Pranab Basu ('78 CE, Mumbai)
13. Prosenjit Santra ('95 ETC, USA)
14. Rajdeep Dutta ('88 EE)
15. Ram Nath Dutta ('79 ETC)
16. Samir Basu ('64 EE), , ON, Canada
17. Saroj Bhol ('65 CE), NJ, USA
18. Shyamal Mitra ('67 CE)
19. Subir Sen ('64 CE, MD, USA)
20. Subrata Saha ('64 CE, NY, USA)
21. Swapan Deb ('94 EE, Oman)
22. Swapan Saha ('88 EE, CA, USA)



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Research Fellowship

The Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur (GAABESU), since its inception, has taken up numerous programmes and projects with BESU to promote excellence in this University. As a part of this endeavour, it has been running several successful student assistance programmes such as Scholarships, Admission and Book Grants, etc. As its newest venture, GAABESU has initiated Research Excellence Awards to promote research among UG & PG students.

This award will be given for research work presented/published to the national and international professional events and/or publications. The awards will support partial travel grants to attend such events, to buy books or subscriptions to journals, membership dues or even to publishing costs.

FCRA Approval

It was reported that FCRA approval allowing acceptance of contributions in foreign currency without restrictions (dated September 1, 2011) from the Ministry of Home Affairs has been received by GAABESU. It was decided that Pratik Dutta will work on the compliance communiqué and the future course of action at the GAABESU end.

80G Approval

Syama Datta reporting the status of 80G approval (allowing alums in India to claim tax-exemption for the donations) informed the EC members that the approval is expected within a week.

Swimming Pool

It was reported that the pool tiling work has been suspended due to heavy rains. The brick work of the changing room was completed. The instruction to start the construction work of the boundary wall and deck lining of the swimming pool has been issued to the concerned agency.

BESU portion of the work (shower room, machine room and bathroom) has already been started and the work will be completed by the time tiling work is done.

The EC resolved that as recommended by the last EC, the

donation period for the Swimming Pool Fund would be extended to the inauguration of the Swimming Pool. It was further resolved that the collection of donation to the swimming pool fund would start with the members of the present EC who had not donated yet and renewed efforts would be made for collection from the members of the Faculty, Officers and staffs of BESUS. The EC requested Swimming Pool Oversight Committee to expedite the residual work of the pool. It is expected that the pool will be open to the students by the end of November 2011. Please note the benefits of donation and to donate below

Benefits of Donation for Pool

1. All donors contributing the minimum suggested amount (Bronze) will be acknowledged in a plaque.
2. All donors in India (80G) and USA (501(c)) will receive Income Tax benefits.
3. Alums donating at least Rs 2500 in India, INR 5000 in the Middle East and USD 300 in North America, Australia, Japan and Europe will receive life memberships, if they are not yet members

How to contribute to the Pool Fund

A. BESU created an account with the United Bank of India to receive funds in Indian Rupee:

A/C Name: BESUS FOUNDATION ACCOUNT

A/C Number: 1532010006354

Bank: United Bank of India

Branch: BESUS Branch

Address: B E College Campus, Shibpur;

P.O. Botanic Garden, Howrah - 711103

West Bengal, INDIA

Swift code for electronic transfer: UTBIINBBOBC

IFSC Code for UBI, BESU Campus as UTBI0BUSF63 (5th letter stands for zero).

Please mail cheque/draft to

The GAABESU Office

University Guest House

Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur

P.O. Botanic Garden, Howrah - 711103

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This BESU Foundation Account is jointly managed by BESU and GAABESU. It can receive funds from abroad in foreign currencies. Please note that in the terms of Notification No.186 (F. No. DG(E)/80G/93-94) dated 15th December, 1993, all donations received by BESUS including this account are eligible for Income Tax Relief under Section 80G(2)(a)(iiif).

To keep track of your generous donation in INR, please notify gaabesu@gmail.com.

B. Donation in USA or in USD

Please make your donation in USD payable to "BECAA" and mail it to:

*BECAA,
c/o Mr. Saroj Bhol,
54 Bosko Drive, East Brunswick,
NJ 08816, USA*

Please write the swimming pool in the memo. USA taxpayers receive 501(c) income tax benefit from US Federal Government. To keep track of your generous donation in USD, please notify ss.bhol@gmail.com

C. Donation in Canada (CAD)

Please make your payment in CAD by cheque/draft in favour of "BECAA Canada" with a note swimming pool in the memo section and mail it to:

*Somnath Basu
1207 Ainslie Way SW
Edmonton, Alberta T6W 0H6*

To keep track of your generous donation in CAD, please notify agghosh@cogeco.ca

D. From anywhere using credit cards

Anyone with a valid credit card can donate online on the GAABESU website, clicking the credit card image. On-line donors receive instant notification via email.

E. For donors in UAE

Please contact, Tanusree Chakraborty ('91CE); Email: tan.new.sree@gmail.com

F. For donors in Oman

Please contact, Rajdeep Dutta ('88EE); Email: rajdeep.88ee@gmail.com

G. For donors in Kuwait/Saudi Arabia

Please contact, Santosh Sinha, ('65CE); Email: santosh.65ce@gmail.com

H. For donors in UK

Please contact Nandalal Ghosh ('63CE); Email: nanda.ghosh@yahoo.co.uk

ALUMNI NEWS

Sudhangshu Sekhar Chakraborty, '57CE

Mr. Sudhangshu Sekhar Chakraborty ('57CE), Fellow of the National Academy of Engineering, has recently been recognized by the same body for his contribution in engineering and has been awarded the prestigious "Lifetime Contributions Award in Engineering" for 2011. As alums, we celebrate his achievements.

Mr. Chakraborty has also been awarded "Distinguished Visiting Professorship" of AICTE-INAE for a decade (2001-2011). As a Visiting Professor, he delivers lectures to students, engages in student projects, laboratory development, and provides input to curriculum development for IITs and other flagship institutions of India, especially in civil engineering. This position, created by the topmost technical education body of India recognizes his accomplishments in the profession.

His penchant for promoting his profession and mentoring young engineers, resulted in his appointment as the IABSE President's Ambassador to support Young Engineer's program in India and South Asia. His forceful voice, heard clearly across India and in many parts of the world, carries his strength of convictions in offering technical solutions to the world's developmental problems, but within the context of inclusive and sustainable development. He is a much sought-after speaker in knowledge conclaves, with people eager to take in his messages of deep concern for the society.

He is not only an excellent technocrat but also an entrepreneur and institution builder. His signature is readily visible in a range of projects in inter alia, bridges, expressways, highways, water resources at basin level, marine & urban development, environment & ecology, natural resource management, built-environment, rehabilitation, restoration, and power.



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For Mr. Chakraborty's contribution in the design and construction of The Second Vivekananda Bridge across River Hooghly in Kolkata, he was bestowed with the Innovative Design Award by the American Segmental Bridge Institute – a first for India.

Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Chakraborty garnered a number of awards for his contribution to engineering such as: Distinguished Alumnus of BESU (2008); Glory of Bengal award as "Eminent Technology Expert and Educationist" (2010); "A Man who has Engineered Dreams", a tribute by Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry; the Gold Medal of the Institution of Civil Engineers (UK), the Institution's apex award in 2007 - a first for an Indian; Honorary Member, International Association of Bridge & Structural Engineering (IABSE), Zurich, 2007; "Exemplary Contribution to National Development, International Understanding, Enrichment of Life", Shelter Award, Shelter Promotion Council (India), 2001; "Human Settlement Strategies & Actions for Sustainable Development"; and, Gold Medal, Indian Building Congress, 1995. Further, his contribution to export promotion of Indian consultancy has been acknowledged by Silver Plaque from the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO), 1989.

Mr. Chakraborty was born in 1937 in Jessore and was schooled in Jessore, Calcutta and Khulna. He passed the Matriculation Examination from Khulna and joined Presidency for his Intermediate degree. He then joined BE College in 1953. He has been a good student throughout his academic life and enjoyed scholarship. He was instrumental in setting up CES, which employs over 2000 professionals and was chairman of the Board. He sold CES to an American Architect/Engineer organization. He is married to famous Bengali writer, Pramatha Nath Bishi's daughter, Dr. Chirashree Bishi who was a Professor of Bengali in a Delhi college. His brother-in-law, Kaniska Bishi is also a BEC alumnus.

Sourav Banerjee, 2000CE

Dr. Sourav Banerjee was awarded the prestigious Achenbach Medal (named after the famed scholar in theory of wave propagation, Prof Jan Achenbach) at the International Workshop for Structural Health Monitoring conference at Stanford University in Oct 13-15 2011. He was awarded this outstanding young scientist award for his groundbreaking work

in predictive modeling for structural health assessment from multiple sensor data, ultrasonic wave field modeling, system level optimization and Structural Health monitoring system integration for on-board or off-board applications.

After graduating in Civil Engineering from BESU, Sourav completed his M.Tech from IIT Bombay in 2002 and then received his Ph.D. in Engineering Mechanics from the University of Arizona in 2005. Wave field modeling in the structures of complex geometries such as corrugated boundaries was the major contribution during his PhD. He also extended the mesh free semi analytical wave field modeling technique called Distributed Point Source Method to the solid media.

He has published a good number of journal articles that have been highly cited. Since the completion of his PhD, he has published around 60 research articles in many peer reviewed journals and conferences in the last 6 years. He also authored a book chapter on 'Advanced Applications of Distributed Point Source Method - Ultrasonic Field Modeling in Solid media'. In his short academic career, he was also awarded German Academic Exchange Scholarship 2001-2002, Outstanding Student Award from IIT, Bombay, 2002-Best Master Thesis Award etc.

Sourav is currently the Director of Product Development at Acellent Technologies Inc, a Structural Health Monitoring Company. From spring 2012, he will be joining University of South Carolina, Columbia as an Assistant Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Two other BEC alumni Dr. Souvik Banerjee (CE'00) from IIT Bombay and Anindya Ghoshal (CE '91) also attended the conference and saw the felicitation of Sourav at the IWSHM award banquet dinner.

Pritam Basu, 1983 EE

Pritam Basu has just published a collection of his poems "Katukutu". Amazon's Kindle store is the publisher and the book can be read in Kindle, iPad, Blackberry, iPhone, Android devices, Personal Computers, and Mac.

Katukutu is a collection of 52 poems. Poems are mainly humor and satire. As the name literally means, the objective of the poems is to stimulate the sense of humor so that one can



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laugh heartily. In abroad, many Bengali parents want their children read Bengali literature and participate in Bengali cultural functions. For those children who can not read Bengali, there are 12 poems in "Katukutu" that are written in English alphabet with Bengali phonetics, so that these kids themselves can read Bengali Rhymes.

Some of his earlier books (Mukh Keno Gomra and Bastabe Rupkatha) are also available in Audio CD. A few of his creation have already met with the music world (Sangeet Barnali, courtesy his class-mate Dhanonjay Chakraborty of Delhi). Pritam has already presented his Kobita Guchchha in different US Cities (including Bangamela 2010) and he was a big hit in Boi-Mela 2009 in Kolkata when his first collection Mukh Keno Gomra was published by Subarnarekha. His second book Hasi Rashi Rashi (Papyrus, 2010) was a clear evidence of the maturation process and his mastery of packaging very serious contemporary issues in a very subtle way that leaves a huge imprint on our mind.

One can enjoy couple of poems by visiting <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B005SIJ0IW> website.

Nandini Mukherjee, 1987 ETC

Dr. Nandini Mukherjee ('87ETC), Professor of Jadavpur University, recently was a CPI(M) candidate in a bye-election for the West Bengal's assembly seat at Bhowanipore. Her opponent was Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Chief Minister of West Bengal. Knowing fully well that she had no chance of winning, she fought valiantly. However, she was unsuccessful in her attempt to be an M.L.A. Her husband, Dr. Biman Bandyopadhyay ('84CE), is the Registrar of BESU. Both of them were leaders of SFI during their time at the then BEC.

50th Anniversary Celebration Of 1962-67 Batch

B.E. College alumni who studied during 1962-67 (1962-68 in case of Architects) are planning a reunion in January/February 2012 to celebrate their association with the BEC community for 50 years. This group would include persons joining B.E. College in 1962 irrespective of the graduating year and those graduating in 1967 (1968 for Architects) irrespective of the year of joining. Our friends who studied with us in one or more academic sessions during 1962-67 but might have joined

before 1962 and graduating post 1967 are also invited.

Some of our friends joined B.E. College in 1962 but left the College without completing the course in B.E. College. They would also be included in the group if they choose to.

It has been decided that a Committee and Sub-Committees would be formed who will organize the function. However, Pradip Ranjan Dutt was unanimously requested to be the Treasurer (E-mail: pradip.dutt@gmail.com, Tel. 033-23211443, 9831025689-Cell). Alums from that era who are interested to join are requested to contact Pradip.

OBITUARY

Amitava Gangulee, '61MetE

We are sad to inform you that Dr. Amitava "Milan" Gangulee ('61 MetE) died on Feb. 4, 2011 at Massachusetts, USA. A memorial service will be held at the MIT Chapel (102 Amherst St, Cambridge, MA 02138) on 5th November at 4 PM to celebrate his life. His wife Suzane Gangulee has requested his friends around New England to attend the service, if possible.

Ajoy Mukherjee. '60 MinE

We are sorry to inform you that Ajoyda is no longer with us. He was living in Indiana, PA for a long time and passed away few weeks back. May his soul rest in peace.

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