



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

BESU and ALUMNI

In western countries, especially in North America, one can see a special bond between an alumnus and his/her *alma mater*. For some reason, this kind of a bond is not seen in India except for a few institutes. One such exception is found in our *alma mater*. The special relationship between BEC/ BECDU/ BESU and its alumni has grown over the years. One reason for this growth may be the cohesive nature of the student body. Whatever be the reason, our alumni community has always been proud of our *alma mater* and takes pride in serving her in different capacities.

Prior to the formation of an association, alumni groups from different parts of the world used to do their best in helping our *alma mater*. Once the Global Alumni Association was formed and registered in 2005, it provided a platform to bring all alumni together and expand the relationship to be mutually respectful, beneficial and rewarding lasting forever. However, relationships can only blossom if both sides are responsible and have a commitment to each other. Initially, BESU provided fund to set up the office which was a great help. GAABESU, in turn, started several initiatives to help students, alumni and faculty of BESU in the form of scholarship, mentorship and financial aid in emergency. Also it has started planning for completely refurbishing the swimming pool using the membership fees collected in foreign currencies. It also recommended eminent academicians (who are ex-students) to represent alumni to the BESU Court (its highest policy making body). Alumni all over the world cordially hosted BESU faculty and administration while they visited countries abroad.

Now questions come, have we achieved our goals? When we see the administration discarding prominent academicians (who could guide BESU during the transition to an INI) as the alumni representatives to the Court, we wonder what the reason could be. Does it mean that the administration do not care for our opinion? Nobody knows. As far as the role of alumni in improving our *alma mater* is concerned, we are even more perplexed about their attitudes. We have noticed that most of alumni all over the world participate spontaneously in social events. But when we ask them to participate in activities to help the *alma mater*, they show a profound lack of interest. We don't know why they are not willing to participate in activities beyond social events. Why do we not see much interest among the alumni visiting BESU in building a strong relationship with faculty and in exchanging students with their institutes? Other side of this problem is lack of our understanding of the role and responsibilities of BESU towards alumni. We need to find out if BESU is even interested in reaching out to the alumni or to acknowledge their help towards the *alma mater*.

Note: The editorial is representative of the thoughts and beliefs that are solely the editor's and are not representative of the official position of GAABESU.

| | |
|--|---|
| FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK | 1 |
| BESU and ALUMNI | 1 |
| BESU ACTIVITIES | 2 |
| Donation of personal book collection to Architecture Dept..... | 2 |
| BESU Welcomes Afghan Students..... | 2 |
| Publication by BESU Faculty..... | 2 |
| Award for Dr. Subrata Chakraborty, Professor of CE | 3 |
| Award for Dr. Hafizur Rahaman, Professor of IT..... | 3 |
| GAABESU ACTIVITIES | 3 |
| GAABESU Emergency Fund..... | 3 |
| CHAPTER ACTIVITIES | 4 |
| BECAA East Coast..... | 4 |
| EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... | 4 |
| 25th Anniversary of the class of 1983..... | 4 |
| Silver Jubilee of 1984 Batch graduates..... | 5 |
| Obituary | 5 |
| Kamal K Das, '84CE..... | 5 |
| Kumar Mukhopadhyay, '59ME | 5 |
| Subhajit Saha, 2 nd Year CST | 5 |
| A. ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST FORM..... | 6 |
| B. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION | 6 |

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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BESU ACTIVITIES

Donation of personal book collection to Architecture Department

- Submitted by Dr. Amitava Roy, '90ARCH

On September 11, 2008, Smt. Maya Datta, wife of Late Amarendra Nath Datta, ('61ARCH) donated the personal collection of architectural books of her husband to the Department of Architecture, Town & Regional Planning of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur at a campus function [\[Click here for details\]](#).



The function was presided over by Dr. Sibabrata Haldar, Head of the Department and attended by Er. Dilip Sircar, Ar. Arun Gopal De, Ar. Shovanlal Bonnerjee, Prof Amrita Kumar De (Khajuda), all of the BEC 1956-Entrants and Ar. Debjit Adhikary ('86ARCH), Secretary, Indian Institute of Architects, West Bengal Regional Chapter as well as all Faculty members, Staff and Students of the Department.

Prof. Arup Sarkar delivered the welcome address on behalf of the department. The dignitaries and classmates of Sri Datta reminisced the old days and highlighted various virtues of Sri Datta. Prof. Aditya Bandyopadhyay expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the bereaved family. Dr. Sibabrata Haldar thanked all for attending the function and said that the department would be benefitting from such a unique personal collection. A representative of the students also expressed such views. Smt. Maya Datta donated a total of 179 books, which will be kept in a special enclosure in the Departmental Sub-Library. All who were present observed a minute of silence in memory of Sri Datta – May his soul rest in the eternal abode of peace.

A short Biography of Amarendranath Datta:

Born on 7th August, 1935, Mr. Dutta breathed his last on 23rd March, 2008. He was schooled at Scottish Church Collegiate School, received his B. Arch degree from Bengal Engineering College in 1961

and MS in Architecture from North Dakota State University in 1968.

He started his profession at Seattle as an architectural consultant, and came back in India in October, 1979 to join Ghosh Bose and Associates. In his long professional career, he was associated in designing numerous buildings. Among them, the buildings for SAIL on J. L. Nehru Road, SBI Main Branch on Strand Road, NUJS on EM Bypass, Purbachal Housing, Philips Factory and Patna Planetarium deserve special mention.



BESU Welcomes Afghan Students

- Excerpt from Times of India

Three students from Afghanistan have joined the prestigious Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU) to study civil engineering [\[Click here for the TOI report\]](#).

It's a first, for both the institute and the Afghan trio. Burhanuddin Salampur, Badshah Khan Derwez and Janat Gul Himmat had never stepped out of their war-ravaged country, until the Indian government decided to help Afghan students get back on their feet. The trio was among the brightest of the 500 selected for the Indian scholarships and bagged seats at BESU. For these Afghan students, the BESU campus is a completely different world. When they wake up, it's to the sound of an alarm bell, not gunfire or rocket explosion. They don't have to worry if there is a sniper round the corner. Years of living dangerously have given them a sense of humour that helps them tackle difficult situations.

GAABESU welcomes these students to the BESU fraternity.

Publication by BESU Faculty

S. Kundu, Research Associate, and S. Chatterjee, Professor and Head, Department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, Bengal



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Engineering and Science University, Shibpur, Howrah-711103, India, and D. Olson and B. Mishra. Professors, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO 80401, published a paper titled, "Interface Microstructure and Strength Properties of the Diffusion-Bonded Joints of Titanium | Cu Interlayer | Stainless Steel" in 2008 Metallurgical and Materials Transactions, a journal on Physical Metallurgy & Materials Science.

Award for Dr. Subrata Chakraborty, Professor of CE

Dr. Subrata Chakraborty, '91CE, a life Member of GAABESU, Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering has been awarded "The Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers". This prestigious fellowship in recognition to his published works will go a long way in boosting up the research activities in general. The Humboldt Research Fellowships for experienced researchers are the instruments with which the Foundation enables highly-qualified scientists and scholars from abroad. This will give Professor Chakraborty opportunity to carry out advanced research on Seismic Reliability and Vulnerability Analysis of Industrial Facilities at Technical University Aachen, Germany. Moreover, AvH sponsor their alumni on a long-term basis and maintain contact after the end of the successful initial research stay in Germany. We hope, with this, Professor Chakraborty can fulfill his desire for quality research, which he has already initiated here and will be able to strengthen the relationships with specialist colleagues in Germany and permanently consolidate academic collaboration at the University level.

For information regarding the award:
<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de>

Award for Dr. Hafizur Rahaman, Professor of IT

Dr. Hafizur Rahaman, '86EE, a life member of GAABESU, Professor in the Department of Information Technology has been awarded Royal Society International Fellowship award by Royal Society, UK. The Royal Society Foundation has awarded this prestigious fellowship on basis of the international Publications and reputation of the scientist in cutting edge research area of VLSI. This recognition will go a long way in boosting up the research activities in general.

The award will give Prof. Rahaman opportunity to carry out advanced research for a year on Efficient Synthesis of Optimized Testable Hardware for Polynomials over GF(2^m) at Computer Science Department, University of Bristol, United Kingdom.

The research of Dr. Rahaman is a missing link between the two research groups and his experience will be valuable in bridging the research interests of the UK groups and our research group. We

Hope, Prof. Rahaman's visit will establish a better contact between the research groups in the University of Bristol and our university and establish a long-time collaboration with our overseas colleagues.

For information regarding the award: <http://royalsociety.org>

GAABESU ACTIVITIES

GAABESU Emergency Fund

GAABESU Emergency Fund Committee thanks all donors who have generously contributed for our fellow alumni in need (Kripamoy Mondal and Kamal Das). GAABESU has now stopped taking donations for Kripamoy Mondal and Kamal Das. The attached flyer includes names of all who have donated to Kripamoy Mondal, Kamal Das and Ayan Basu via GAABESU as well as who have sent their donations directly (as reported by our volunteers). The Emergency Fund Committee has set the following goals for its initiatives:

- To raise additional funds for Abhijit Das ('85 ARCH)
- To raise about INR 50 lakhs by the end of 2010
- To expand GAABESU emergency fund committee (specially with additional members from India)

We appeal to our alumni residing in India to donate at least INR 250.00 and to the alumni residing abroad to donate at least USD 50.00 for the next three (3) years. This will raise a total of about INR 50.00 lakhs which will be invested in a Fixed Deposit account in India. It is expected that 2-3 cases can be supported by the annual interest generated from this fund. Additional funds, if needed, can be raised separately by the Emergency Fund Committee. Alumni have three options for making contributions to this fund:

Option 1: To donate in Indian Rupees (INR) (Indian donors and donors with Indian bank accounts)

An account has been created with United Bank of India to receive funds in INR. The account details are as follows:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| A/C Name: | GAABESU Emergency Fund |
| A/C Number: | 0171010395335 |
| Bank: | United Bank of India |
| Branch: | B E College Extension Counter |
| Address: | BE College Campus, Shibpur, Howrah 711103; INDIA |
| SWIFT CODE: | UTBIIMBB0BC |

Note: Please include "Abhijit Das/General Emergency Fund" in the memo and mail your draft/cheque to:



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GAABESU Office,
BESU Guest House
Bengal Engineering & Science University,
Shibpur, Howrah - 711 103, India

Note: Please do not send any donation in foreign currency to the GAABESU office as it will need FCRA approval from Indian Home Ministry.

Option II - Donation by a credit card from anywhere in the world.

Please click [here](#) to donate on-line

Option III - Donation in US Dollar (USD) by cheque/draft

Make your donation payable to "BECAA" and mail it to:

BECAA
C/O Mr. Saroj Bhol
54 Bosko Drive
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
Tel: 732.257.5989

Note: Please write "Abhijit Das/General Emergency Fund" in the memo.

For information on the Emergency Committee and all its initiatives, please send e-mails to: emergency@becollege.org. The status of our fund drive will be posted regularly to the GAABESU web site and a flyer is scheduled to be published later this year with the names of all donors to this new initiative.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

BECAA East Coast

- Submitted by Arindam Mukhopadhyay ('90ME)

BE College Alumni Association of the Tri-State area (NY/NJ/CT) celebrated its summer reunion on 15th September, 2008 at Kiddie Keepwell Camp banquet hall located inside Roosevelt Park in Edison, NJ. The event was typically a combination of outdoor sports, cultural performances and "adda". So, the lush green park setting added more color to the already colorful event.

High drama of the evening was the tug-of-war. In a stroke of genius, teams were formed using even and odd years of passing. Amit Roychoudhury ('89CE), currently Professor in Applied Mechanics Dept. decided to use all his AM "fundae" to use the right angle and commensurate force to make a winning team. He underestimated the



"spouse pull" who jumped to the rescue of "even batchers" and scored a decisive win! So much for applied mechanics! But it was pure fun! In summary, it was a wonderful event which the alumni and their family enjoyed a lot.



In summary, it was a wonderful event which the alumni and their family enjoyed a lot. In keeping with the true BEC tradition, there were a strong sense of bonhomie, an absolute thrill of meeting classmates or hostel mates after many years and a longing for the winter event scheduled in February. Till then – adios! [[Click here for details and photo album](#)].

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

25th Anniversary Reunion of the class of 1983

- Submitted by Amitabha Chatterjee, ('83EE)

The class of '83 ended their memorable years at BE College 25 years ago and began their journey to a new world. Now, we will be celebrating 25th anniversary of the start of that great journey on Dec 27th and 28th of 2008.

The celebrations on the 27th of December will be held at the college campus. The venue for the 28th is being finalized but it will probably be in the form of a river cruise on Hooghly. The Alumni House is available for anyone who wishes to spend the 26th night at the campus in preparation for the festivities.



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A souvenir will be published which among other things will list all the members of the class and any current information that the organizers have been able to gather. We will be inviting and felicitating professors from our time.

The cultural sub-committee promises a great show on the evening of 27th of December. We have also been raising fund for the past 3 years and will attempt to make a significant donation to the college towards some worthy cause (scholarships?) during the celebrations. We have organized a Yahoo group page as our primary communication channel. If you are not yet members of this Yahoo group, please send an e-mail to becollege1983subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

You can also contact some of our class mates directly. You may choose to send an e-mail to Amitabha Chatterjee, EE at achatterjee@yahoo.com, or call Atin Dey at 91 98318 69618, Kusal Thakur at 91 98307 84865 or Abhijit Bhaumick at +91 98300 05263. If you are not a member of the class of '83, but know someone from that batch, we would greatly appreciate your help in informing them. We ask every member of the class of '83 to be present at this great occasion!!

Silver Jubilee of 1984 Batch graduates

We would request assistance in contacting 1984 batch graduates since we are planning an event in 2009 when we will complete 25 years of our graduation. We would request all 1984 graduates to join us at: <http://bec84batch.ning.com/>. Contact: B Hari at hari@ontrackuk.com

Obituary

Kamal K Das, '84CE

- Submitted by Snehasish Goshal, ('84ME: H11,Rich), Delhi

With profound grief I am sharing this information that our batch-mate - Mr. Kamal Kumar Das '84 Civil (Hostel 11), who was suffering from Cancer, has passed away this morning. On behalf of '84 batch, we express our gratitude for the solidarity shown by you all in donating money for his treatment.

May his soul rest in peace!

Kumar Mukhopadhyay, '59ME

- Submitted by Tarun Basu, ('67CE), Texas

With profound grief I would like to inform you that our Kumarda, (Mr. Kumar Mukhopadhyay, '59ME) has passed away on Tuesday (October 20, 2008) at Delaware. He lived in Pittsburgh for about 20 years. After retirement, he moved to Delaware to be closer to his children. His wife took him hospital for admission for his heart problem and when she went to park her car leaving him on a wheel chair, he passed away. Kumarda is survived by his wife, one son, three daughters, two sons-in-law and grand children.

May his soul rest in peace!

Subhajit Saha, 2nd Year CST Student

- [The Telegraph](#), Oct 23, 2008

A 19-year-old student of Bengal Engineering and Science University (Besu) drowned in the Hooghly after falling off a jetty near the campus on Wednesday evening.

Subhajit Saha, a second-year computer engineering student from Chinsurah, was with four of his batchmates when he fell into the river, said police.

May his soul rest in peace!



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A. ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUEST FORM

In case you did not send your recent address to GAABESU, please fill-up your information and send it to GAABESU.

First Name*:

Middle Initial:

Last Name*:

Address*:

Address (Continued):

City*:

State*:

ZIP/PIN:

Country*:

4 digits graduating Year*:

First Degree at BEC/BESU*:

Other Degree(s) at BESU or Elsewhere:

Department*:

Hostel Name(s):

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

Cell/Mobile Phone:

Company Name, in Any:

Primary E-Mail :

Secondary E-Mail:

[* Compulsory Fields]

Please fill up the form and send it either on-line or postal mail

- 1) <https://www.becollege.org/members/AddName.asp>

2) Email: gaabesu@gmail.com

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.

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