



Global Alumni Association Newsletter, Bengal Engineering & Science University, Shibpur

Alumni Newsletter – Vol 7, No 6, December 6, 2005. <http://www.becollege.org>

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Alumni web team: A team of alumni working to maintain the
alumni web site and all web based operations.

For comments or suggestions: Contact alumni web team at
gbecaa@yahoo.com. Please send us your local chapter, batch
news, personal accomplishment and events to be included in
the next newsletter, deadline January 31, 2006.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friend:

By this time, I am sure, you have come to know that the Expert Committee formed by MHRD to review the candidacy of seven institutions for conversion to IIT has visited BESU, Shibpur (our BEC). From the newspaper reports and unofficial communications from our alumni/alumnae in Calcutta, it appears that the visit went pretty smoothly. However, the committee has asked BESU to submit the development plan showing the costs of upgrading different departmental facilities separately. In prior submittal, all costs were lumped together. The committee was quite impressed with the way all stakeholders of the university (students/faculty/administration and staff/alumni) were united in their views for this conversion.

One of the committee members remarked that institutions like BESU should take advantage of their uniqueness (which IITs lack) and strive for being an international center of excellence. It is quite possible that these institutions may not be called IITs (It is rumored that the alumni/alumnae of the IITs are lobbying against converting more institutions to IITs. They think, it will dilute their brand name.). The committee has floated the name for this group of institutions to be Advanced Institute of Technology (AIT) but there is a plan to suggest a different name that will reflect the type of institutions they will evolve into. Whatever may be the name of these institutions, they will be at par with the IITs as far as Central Governmental funding is concerned and will be sharing the R&D funding from with Central/State Government agencies with them.

Final recommendations will be sent to the MHRD by the middle of January 2006. Based on the recommendations, the MHRD personnel will discuss with the respective State Governments about the mode of transfer of the administrative responsibilities. The stakeholders of BESU will be appealing to WBCM to approve the transfer if it is recommended for conversion. The alumni and faculty will be seeking



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appointments with Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, WBCM to impress upon him about the importance of this conversion for the school vis-à-vis West Bengal and request him to use his good office for a quick approval by the State Government. Based on the news reports and unofficial information, we believe WBG will accept committee's recommendation for BESU's conversion. This will be in line with Mr. Bhattacharya's recent announcement that he wants to improve the standards of education in WB and lessen the political interferences in the administration of educational establishments there. We are guardedly optimistic that BESUS (our BEC) will be an IIT-type national institution, in time for its 150th anniversary celebration.

While we celebrate the attention, our BEC is getting all through the media, we should remember that it getting extremely difficult for a few alumni to pursue all the activities related to the general improvement of BEC. The coordination of all the activities has been possible only because we have been able to utilize the Internet effectively. The idea of website was the brainchild of two alumni in California, USA who were just out of Universities. One of them continued it, after one of them had to discontinue due to a personal tragedy, with occasional support from a few other alumni since 2000. About eight years back, they planted the seed of this website with a simple dream of uniting all alumni at a virtual arena and letting them aware of what is going on at our beloved college. That plant has become a giant tree (in my mind). Now, this tree needs professional nurturing. Without that we would not be able to communicate with the alumni/alumnae or update on a 24/7 basis (which we have been doing since January 2005 with the help of volunteer alumni in all time zones of the world).

The tasks to convert BESU to an IIT, to form a global alumni association, helping alumni in need, providing scholarship to needy students, seeking donations to set up new laboratories and school and to improve the infrastructure of BESU could only be undertaken with only a handful of alumni/alumnae because of this website. It requires a lot of time and energy for a few of us to keep it running smoothly. We hope that with

the formation of GAA, it will prepare next generation of alumni/ alumnae to take this responsibility with the help of paid staff. As our first task of converting BESUS to an IIT is almost complete (as far as alumni/alumnae are concerned) and GAA is in the process of being formed, we in the web team have planned to curtail our activities. We will spend less time on web activities so that members of the team, who spent an awful lot of time for the last three years in BESU conversion/GAA formation activities, can spend more time for their families and in professional works. As a result, not everything in the website may be updated in time. WE understand that not everybody will concur with our decision but without more help from willing alumni/alumnae, we do not have any choice. As soon as we get some help, we would go back to normal operation. We apologize for the temporary inconvenience and hope you will understand our situation.

On behalf of the web team, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy as well as a Prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Tarun Basu ('67CE, '70ME)

BESUS IN THE NEWS

UGC Centre at BESUS

(Excerpt from the original article that was published in The Telegraph on November 17, 2005)

An autonomous institute under the University Grants Commission (UGC) plans to build a state-of-the-art research facility at Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU) at Shibpur.

The research centre of the UGC Department of Atomic Energy Consortium for Scientific Research (UDCSR) has been located on Jadavpur University's (JU) Salt Lake campus for the past 10 years.

"We are indebted to JU for its support. However, because of a



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space crunch, we have no scope to expand our facility on the campus. Besides, we want to have a building of our own, so we approached the BESU authorities for an acre on its premises,” explained A.K. Sinha, UDCSR’s centre director.

“Our board of management has decided in principle to provide land to UDCSR on our campus,” said N.R. Banerjee, vice-chancellor, BESU.

“We plan to allot a plot alongside the newly-constructed science and technology building,” he added.

In order to read the full article), please visit the News Archive section of our website at: <http://www.becollege.org> or [Click Here](#)

Update on the conversion of BESUS to an IIT

The web team and the alumni have been enthusiastically following the developments on the conversion of Bengal Engineering and Science University to IIT. In our last issue of the news letter we had provided a synopsis of the news reports published by major media outlets. Similar reports continue to appear in the major newspapers.

In order to view a chronological list of such reports, please visit our website at www.becollege.org and check our news archive or [Click Here](#). The linked page also contains all relevant documents from BESUS administration, faculty, students and alumni. In addition, it lists the news articles from the local press which has actively supported this initiative and has covered its development extensively.

BE University on Missile Watch

Excerpt from the original article published in Times Of India on October 6, 2005 by Jhimli Mukherjee Pandey/TNN

Kolkata: The next time there is a navigation problem that the defence ministry cannot solve on its own, it will refer it to the Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU), formerly BE College. A brand new navigation research centre, sponsored by the union defence ministry, was set up at BESU on Tuesday, the first of its kind in a state-run university.

This centre will report to the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) in Hyderabad and will get all its projects from it. The director of DRDL, Prahlad, was in BESU on Tuesday to start the centre and sign an MoU with BESU.

To view this article in its entirety [click here](#). This and other similar articles are available in the News Archives section of our website at www.becollege.org

Centenary Souvenir

A scanned copy of the Centenary Souvenir publication that was published on December 30, 1956 is now available online at both the [BESUS website](#) as well as [GAA website](#). To view/download the PDF version of the souvenir publication, [click here](#).

GAA – BESUS CONNECTION

BESUS Alumni Scholarship Program

Alumni of erstwhile Bengal Engineering College, currently known as Bengal Engineering & Science University, Shibpur (BESUS), not only cherish the memories of 4 or 5 years of their golden days during their formative years at the college campus, but have also been active in raising funds through alumni contribution. Among the various initiatives funded by the alumni contributions, we are especially proud of the alumni scholarship program. This program is becoming



Scholarship recipients in the annual function of Vivekananda Youth Circle.

increasingly popular for two reasons: 1) it provides a bridge between the alumni and the academically bright but financially needy students (often from rural backgrounds), and 2) it also gives the alumni personal satisfaction in getting



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directly involved with the future alumni of their alma mater. In a way, alumni get to express their gratitude for the subsidized cost of education that they had benefited from, when they were students. This sets an example for the current students in general and the scholarship recipients in particular to follow their peers when they embark on a successful career.

For the 2005-06 year, the Alumni Scholarships Program has 34 recipients. The sum total of all the scholarships amounted to INR 340,000. In addition, 4 book grants of INR 1000 are also being awarded this year to deserving students. This initiative was successfully implemented by the alumni from India, Middle East, and North America who worked together and coordinated with Vivekananda Youth Circle (VYC), a campus-based organization of students, faculty and staff of BESUS.

Alumni are aiming at increasing the number of scholarships to at least 50 (amounting to a total of INR 500,000) for the year 2006-07 to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of their alma mater. As indicated before, the main objectives of this effort are to enlighten the financially constrained students of BESUS to focus on their career, to help them become responsible alumni, and to inculcate a culture of cooperation and gratitude in them similar to their peers.

In order to read the full article by Rajdeep Dutta ('88EE), please visit the News Archive section of our website at: <http://www.becollege.org> or [Click Here](#).

GAA ACTIVITIES

GAA Membership Drive

Immediate challenges for the Global Alumni Association, as pointed out by Dr. Santanu Kumar Karmakar ('83ME), its Honorary Secretary, are to set up the alumni office with appropriate resources and to convince our alumni in becoming members of GAA. The ad-hoc executive committee in cooperation with BESUS will set up the alumni office. But without active alumni participation, drive for the memberships will never be successful.

At least 20-25 volunteer alumni are required to work closely with the ad-hoc committee for the membership drive. Each volunteer needs to agree with GAA bye-laws and contribute to membership drive. He/she can be elected local chapter official or an active alumnus/alumna within his/her batch; and, will work as an ambassador of the GAA to liaise with the

alumni. GAA ad-hoc committee is also reviewing a proposal to visit major Indian hubs including Bangalore, Mumbai and Delhi to meet local alumni for on-site membership drives.

Please go to the [GAA section](#) of our website to view all GAA related information. To view the original appeal from Dr. Karmakar, [Click Here](#).

ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Alumnus hired as Senior Creative director for reputed Advertising Firm

Mr. Arindam Sengupta ('88CE) has recently been hired as Senior Creative Director for RK Swamy BBDO Pvt. Ltd. a reputed advertising firm based in Mumbai.

Mr. Sengupta started his career as an engineer. His passion for the visual media ultimately compelled him to give up his career as an engineer and start his career in advertising with Mileage Advertising, Kolkata.

Before moving to Ad Comm., Bangladesh, Sengupta did a short stint with Trikaya Grey, Kolkata, where he served the organization as creative supervisor.

An article was published in the agencyfaqs website on this matter. To view this article [Click Here](#)

Entrepreneur Alumnus in the News

Mr. Sanjoy Ghosh ('87ETC), Managing Director of Simoco Telecommunications Limited (South Asia), was recently in the news. Mr. Ghosh is leading the company on a major tie-up with a Chinese Company in an initiative to build a Mobile Phone Manufacturing unit in West Bengal. One of the products would be a mobile phone with walkie-talkie feature, which, Mr. Ghosh says would be the first of its kind in India.

In order to read the article on this matter that was published by Sify Finance, [Click Here](#)

Dr. Arindam Ghosh an IEEE Fellow

Dr. Arindam Ghosh, '75EE, '78ME and Professor Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Kanpur has been elected as a Fellow of IEEE. The citation reads: "for contributions to education in power electronic applications to transmission and distribution systems."



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Alumnus & Poet, Mr. Hillol Ray, '73CE



Mr. Ray is an Environmental Engineer and Manager of Drinking Water Supply Enforcement Program, with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Dallas, Texas. Born and raised in a suburb of Calcutta, India, he has been writing poetry since the age of six, in his native language "Bengali". His poems are regularly published in Bengali magazines from Asia, Europe, Canada, Sweden, and North America and are currently being translated into English, Swedish, Spanish, German and French languages.

To read some of Mr Ray's poetry, please [click here](http://iwvpa.net/rayh/) or visit <http://iwvpa.net/rayh/>

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Workshop on Earthquake Resistant Design for the Built Environment

The Department of Architecture, Town & Regional Planning of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur will be organizing a National Workshop on Earthquake Resistant Design for the Built Environment at the University campus during January 6 and 7, 2006.

The Workshop will address:

- Earthquake Resistant Technology
- Seismic Vulnerability Assessment.
- Sensitization, Education and Awareness Building,
- Implementation and Policy Formulation for Earthquake Resilience and Preparedness

Experienced professionals from across the country (including IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Bombay) with extensive background in Earthquake Disaster Mitigation for the Built Environment are expected to steer the technical agenda. The President of the Council of Architecture, Professor V.S Sohoni will also attend and participate in the deliberations lending support to the capacity building within all the stakeholders in the building

delivery process.

Further details on this workshop are available in the News Archives of our website www.becollege.org or [Click Here](#). To view the brochure for this workshop [Click Here](#).

Mechatronics, Robotics and Industrial Automation

Bengal Engineering & Science University, Shibpur is organizing a Short Term Course on "Mechatronics, Robotics & Industrial Automation" during January 2-7, 2006. An information brochure for this course in PDF format is available [here](#).

Faculty members from different IITs (Kanpur, Delhi, Kharagpur & Bombay), ISI (Kolkata) and industry experts from TISCO, CETE, and National Instruments Bangalore and R&D organisations like CMERI and BARC are expected to deliver lectures. There will also be laboratory sessions and demonstrations of equipments related to this course. Please circulate this information and brochure among your friends and colleagues who would be interested to attend the course. Please also circulate it among various Departments that are involved with Mechanical /Electrical/ Electronics/ Computers/ Instrumentation/ Control/ Production and allied fields. Please feel free to nominate few members of your organization to participate in the course.

This information has been made available to the web team by:

Dr. Subhasis Bhaumik

Course-coordinator

*Bengal Engineering & Science University, Shibpur
Howrah, West Bengal – 711 103, INDIA*

Email: sbhaumik@lycos.com

Ph. 033-2668 4561 / 62 / 63 Extn. 701 / 277

The Information Brochure is available in PDF format at: www.becollege.org/News/RoboticsBrochureJan2006.pdf

Appeal for CE Alumni to participate in CENeM

Prof. Gautam Bhattacharya ('77CE), Organizing Secretary for the upcoming International Conference (CENeM 2007) has reiterated his appeal to CE Alumni to participate and support this event. He has requested that interested alumni send in their proposal ABSTRACTS well before the deadline of December 31, 2005.

In addition Prof. Bhattacharya requests alumni to encourage non-alumni in their professional circles to send in proposal



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abstracts for the event. Prof. Bhattacharya also requests all alumni to make every effort to be physically present during the conference (January 11-14, 2007).

In order to view the CENeM Bulletin please visit the News Archive section of our website at www.becollege.org or [Click Here](#).

Network & Genetic Algorithm in Materials Science & Engineering (NGMS-2006)

An international workshop on Neural Network and Genetic Algorithm in Materials Science and Engineering (NGMS-2006) is being organized by the School of Materials Science and Engineering, BESU, Shibpur in BESUS campus during January 11-13, 2006. Distinguished experts from UK, Finland, Singapore as well as experts from BESUS, IITs, SINP, IACS and ISI will be participating in this workshop as invited/plenary speakers. A detailed list of speakers along with the theme and other information are available at <http://www.becollege.org/news/NGMS.pdf> for your kind perusal.

The programme of the workshop will be available as soon as its structure is finalized. There will be a tutorial session prior to the workshop. Contributory papers from different institutions including JU, IITs, and IGCAR have been received.

This initiative is first of its kind at BESUS. A group of scientists, under the leadership of Dr. Shubhabrata Datta, Assistant Professor has been working in this interdisciplinary field of materials engineering in collaboration with Prof. Jaya Sil of the Department of Computer Science and Technology, BESUS and Prof. Nirupam Chakraborti of the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, IIT, Kharagpur.

Some infrastructural facilities for continuing this research work is already available at BESUS. A collaborative research programme with Cambridge University and others, utilizing the presence of Prof. Harry Bhadeshia of Cambridge University, UK, a pioneer in this field, is also being developed. A dedicated computational materials science laboratory is being set up at BESUS. During the workshop there will be a session for interaction of the faculty members of BESUS and the foreign experts in presence of our Vice-Chancellor to convert these plans into reality.

This write-up is based on information received from:

Dr. N. R. Bandyopadhyay

*Professor,
School of Materials Science and Engineering
Chairman, Organising Committee, NGMS-2006.
Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur
P.O. B.Garden, Howrah - 711 103
West Bengal, India*

Academic opportunity at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dr. Sougata Roy ('88CE) recently joined ATLSS Engineering Research Center at Lehigh University at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as a Research Scientist. He has indicated that one of his research projects has sufficient funding for at least two graduate students with suitable credentials as Research Assistants. It will include full-time tuition amounting up to 9 credit hours per semester and a stipend for half time employment not exceeding 20 hours a week. Anyone interested in pursuing graduate studies in Structural Engineering may consider this opportunity.

Interested candidates are advised to refer to Lehigh University's web site (www.lehigh.edu) for admission details. Dr. Roy has also indicated that it may be already late for making an application and anyone interested should promptly respond. For further details, please contact him at sougata_roy@yahoo.com

IEEE 14th Asian Test Symposium, 2005

The Fourteenth Asian Test Symposium (ATS'05) to be held in Kolkata, India, aims to provide an open forum for worldwide researchers and industrial practitioners to exchange innovative ideas on VLSI testing. The theme of the Symposium is "Embedded Test Technology", which covers all aspects of technical and implementation issues on design-for-testability, built-in-self-test, test integration, diagnosis, repair, and yield enhancement of a complex digital, analog or mixed-signal chip.

More information is available at:
<http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/ats05/>

Vacancies in Oracle

Mr. Subhashish Acharya, '98MIN, reported several vacancies in Oracle for the following fields:

- Applications Consultants for:
- CRM
- Enterprise Management



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- Human Capital Management
- Supply Chain Management
- Specialty Areas [Leasing, Grants, Configurator, Clinicals, etc.]
- Apps/Tech
- Public Sector
- Technical Consultants (ATS) for US/Canada, with or without Clearance
- Platform (Grid/DB/AppsDBA/Enterprise Architects)
- Fusion Middleware (J2EE, Custom Development, Portal)
- Integration (BPEL/PSFT/JDE/Oracle/Web Services/EDI)
- PSFT & JDE BI / Content & Collab / Protected Enterprise
- All other BI&W (OWB/Discoverer/OLAP/Portal BI/DBI)
- Sales

If you are interested, please contact Mr. Acharya at:

Subhashish Acharya,
Sr Consultant
Oracle Corporation,
Phone 1 (Direct) : +1- 650- 633- 6646 Ext: 87165
Phone 2 (Direct) : +1- 800- 633- 0930 Ext :87165
subhashish.acharya@oracle.com

HELPLINE

AN APPEAL from Asok Chakrobarty, '70CE, NJ, USA

One of our fellow alumni in India, Mr. Apurba Sarkar ('69ME), passed away in March this year leaving behind his wife, a son, and a daughter. The son is married, lives with the in-laws, and is of no help to the family. The daughter who is also married started working recently but cannot help the family in a big way. Apurba has not left behind any money for his family except for a flat with an outstanding mortgage of 2.50 Lakhs, the monthly payment on which is Rs.5000 that has not been paid from the date of his death for paucity of fund. His family needs our help. Anyone willing to help please send your contribution (payable to BECAA, write "Apurba Sarkar" in the memo) to:

Asok Chakrabarty
3 Wells Court,
Bloomfield, NJ-07003.
asok98@aol.com

The family will appreciate any help from the alumni

community. For alumni outside of USA, please send your financial support to:

Smt Rina Sarkar
14A, Indralok
Maheshwar,
Sodpur, 24 Pgs. (N),
W.B.

An Appeal from Bibek Mandal, '89CE, Canada

I have **one appeal** to all of you. Mr. Koushik Dhara, '89ME died in a train accident at Calcutta on 28th May, 1991, and majority of our alumni are not probably aware about it. Although it is old news but I thought we should do something to honor a fellow batch-mate. To honor one of our batch-mates, we like to start a new scholarship after his name as done for Mr. Sandip Sinha, '91ME. I will appreciate if all our batch-mates respond to this appeal so that we can start a scholarship from the next academic year (July 2006).

You can reach Mr. Bibek Mandal at bmondal1@yahoo.ca

Alumni Fund drive for Mr. Sujit Ghosh, '88CE

In the February of 2004, friends and family of Mr. Sujit Ghosh ('88CE) made an appeal to the Bengal Engineering College Alumni. Mr. Ghosh was working as an Assistant Engineer in West Bengal State Electricity Board. In October of 2003, he was diagnosed with Hypoplastic or Aplastic Aneamia. His employer, the West Bengal State Government was willing to cover all medical expenses as long as the treatment was being carried out in a government-run medical facility. Unfortunately, Mr. Ghosh's condition necessitated a transfer to a medical facility in Vellore, which was not a government-run facility. By January 2004, Mr. Ghosh has already received bone-marrow transplantation and the associated costs were approaching INR 1.5 million. At that time, to cope with the astronomical costs of Mr. Ghosh's treatment, his friends decided to start a fund-raising effort.

The easiest way to reach people was through the web, and to make the best out of it, they had to take recourse to www.becollege.org. Once it was online, the alumni from the Oman were the first to contribute. Soon after, funds started pouring in, thanks to the alumni and friends all over the world. By the end of March the total contributions reached the INR 150,000 mark. While funds came in, Mr. Ghosh was going through a series of procedures with ups and downs in his condition. The website helped disseminate the periodic updates, and all his well wishers could were able to keep up with them.



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By May 15, 2005, Mr. Ghosh's condition was improving, and the total of the contributions was reaching INR 850,000. He had returned to work, still on heavy medication and continuing treatment.

This was the first major effort by BEC alumni to come together for such a good cause, and <http://www.becollege.org> (Now we call it GAABESUS website) brought it all together. The success of that initiative revealed the enormous potential and soon other initiatives followed. A chronological list of updates is available at our website. You can follow this initiative and other similar initiatives in the [Helpline](#) section of our website.

Alumni Fund drive for Biplab Ray

In early 2004, BESUS alumni all over the world started receiving an appeal for financial help for medical treatment of Mr. Biplab Roy ('98ETC, '01ME). Mr. Roy underwent heart surgery at an early age of 12. Complications reappeared during the final years of his undergraduate study in the form of high blood pressure. Soon after he suffered facial paralysis and diminished eyesight. After subsequent examination he was diagnosed with Chronic Renal Failure in 2000 and he underwent Kidney transplantation which was successful. Unfortunately, Mr. Roy contracted viral infection and had to undergo several procedures.

As of early 2004, Biplab's kidney was 85% damaged, and he was looking at transplantation again. The extensive medical expenses incurred by Mr. Roy's family and friend to that point made it imperative that they appeal for financial help.

It was not long before the news was on the alumni website at www.becollege.org. Soon after, funds started pouring in from all quarters. Initially it started slow, with INR 25000 from Bangalore, a little over GBP 1100 from alumni and well wishers in UK and a little over USD 800 from alumni in the US. Alumni in the middle-east soon followed with INR 25,000. Meanwhile Mr. Roy was still in a not-so-stable condition with ongoing treatments. He was undergoing dialyses twice a week. By mid-March, 2004, another round of funding came in the US alumni, totaling over USD 900. Funds also came in from the alumni chapters in Jamshedpur and Japan. As of October of 2004, the funding drive has generated approximately INR 850,000 from alumni all across the globe. Mr. Roy was all set for the transplantation and scheduled for the same on October 24, 2004.

This was another successful initiative by BEC/BESUS' global alumni community and our website at www.becollege.org played a significant role in disseminating the information related to Mr. Roy. You can follow the developments on Mr. Roy and other similar initiatives in the [Helpline](#) section of our website.