



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

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AN APPEAL TO JOIN GAA

Appeal from Dr. S.K. Sen and Dr. N.R. Banerjea

(A joint appeal by Dr. Sankar Kumar Sen (48 EE), Ex Minister of Energy, Government of West Bengal and Dr. N. R. Banerjea, Vice-Chancellor, BESUS made on November 8, 2005 to join GAA-BESUS)

Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur (BESUS), formerly B. E. College is the second oldest engineering college in India and was second to none in terms of its quality of education during its earlier days. At this time, along with six other institutes Government of India is considering BESUS to upgrade it to an IIT.

Our Alma Mater is, therefore, at an important crossroad in its history of evolution. A right decision and vision is necessary to elevate BESUS back to its historical seat of excellence and prestige.

It is our cherished dream that our Alma Mater regains its position as the top engineering university in India. Inputs from our alumni at this juncture in the development of our Alma Mater are very important. The only way we can participate collectively is through a Global Alumni Association (GAA-BESUS). Accordingly a GAA-BESUS has been formed and registered in Kolkata with the mission to reach, serve and engage all its alumni, faculty and students to foster a life long intellectual and emotional connection between the university and its graduates, and also to support in developing BESUS to a premier technical institution in India. The GAA-BESUS will provide a unified voice of more than 20,000 alumni worldwide.

A registered office of GAA-BESUS has been established at the university campus. This office is in the process of equipping fully with computers, internet and scanning, faxing and copying facilities. This office will have paid staff to support needs of all of our member alumni.

GAA should represent all alumni of BEC/BECDU/BESUS. In order to make it successful it is now very crucial that all alumni participate in GAA-BESUS by becoming member of GAA-BESUS. Additional information on GAA-BESUS including a membership form will be available in the web site www.becollege.org

This new organization needs all your support. We, therefore, sincerely urge you all alumni of BEC/BECDU/BESUS to sincerely consider becoming member of this great organization.



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MISSION AND GOALS OF THE GAA

Mission and Goals of the GAA

The “Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur (GAABESUS)” has been registered to cultivate and maintain among its fellow members a sentiment of respect for one another, affection and attachment to BEC/BECDU/BESUS, as well as to support and promote the interests of the institute in every possible way.

Mission Statement: The Global Alumni Association of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur (GAABESUS) seeks to reach, serve and engage all its alumni, faculty and students to foster a lifelong intellectual and emotional connection between the college and its graduates; and to enhance the capability of Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur (BESUS).

Goals: The primary goals of the Association include but are not limited to the following:

- As the unified voice of more than 20,000 alumni worldwide, act in an advisory capacity in creating and nurturing a mutually beneficial relationship among the institute, its alumni and its current and future students as well as to engage interested alumni intellectually and socially with each other;
- To help regain the University’s pre-eminent position in engineering education by offering professional competence, knowledge and expertise of the GAABESUS’ members; by projecting its contribution to the engineering profession & strengthening its educational programs; and ensuring that the University is recognized as an IIT/Institute of National Importance;
- To work with the University in soliciting contributions and funds from the alumni, the various levels of government, foundations and foreign agencies in order to upgrade infrastructure and develop and/or expand new curriculum and research programs;
- To help alumni and/or students in distress by creating and maintaining a benevolent fund account;
- To serve as the primary channel of communication between the University and its global alumni community by publishing and circulating a periodic alumni newsletter

(news on developments at the University and about their fellow alumni), organizing professional events, reunions and get-togethers of local and/or regional chapters;

- To assist the school in improving its knowledge base and dissemination of the same, and in the development of innovative technology that serves the needs of the society at large;
- To assist the University in organizing national & international seminars, workshops and conferences in all areas of scholarship to improve the knowledge base of the university community; and
- To do all such things as may be deemed incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects.

GAABESUS DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

Review of GAABESUS meeting on 28th December, 2005

The Adhoc Executive Committee of GAABESUS met on 28th December, 2006. The following is a summary of the discussions and major decisions made at the meeting, as communicated by Mr. Santanu Kumar Karmakar, Honorary Secretary, GAABESUS.

1. Pending amendments to the Memorandum of Association & Regulations, the following arrangements may be made, which would be tentative and subject to the said amendments :-
 - (a) Annual Membership Fees for ex-students in India would be Rs. 250.00 with effect from 1st April, 2006.
 - (b) A category of Associate Members or Affiliate Members would be created for faculty members of BESUS (present and former) and well wishers (in India and abroad), who are not ex-students of BESUS. Associates / Affiliates would pay the same Membership Fees as applicable to ex-students in their country of residence and would not have any voting rights, but would have the right to forward their suggestions / opinions, etc. to the Adhoc Executive Committee for examination. However, Executive Committee is reviewing to give special privileges to present faculty and ex-faculty of B E College to involve them with GAABESU for active participation in relevant sub-committees.



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- (c) For Alumni in the Middle East countries, Life Membership Fees would be INR 5000.00 and they would be admitted as Life Members tentatively, subject to the aforesaid modifications of the Memorandum & Regulations.



Sign directing to the new GAABESUS Office

- (d) Alumni domiciled in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan Myanmar, Maldives and Sri Lanka would pay the same membership fees as ex-students resident in India.
- (e) Alumni residing in the rest of the world pay US\$ 300.00 for Life Membership.
- (f) Annual Membership fee has been rationalized as one tenth of Life Membership elsewhere.
2. The Adhoc office bearers would co-opt the following members to the Adhoc Executive Committee for proper functioning of GAA, till elections are held for filing up such posts. For the time being, the following co-options would be made:-

- From the United States 3 members
- From Canada 2 members
- From United Kingdom 2 members
- From the Middle East 2 members
- From Bangalore 2 members
- From New Delhi 2 members
- From Mumbai 2 members

The aforesaid number of representatives from different countries / locations is tentative and subject to approval. Dr. S. K. Karmakar and Dr. Swapan Saha would suggest

the names to Mr. Santanu Chatterjee in consultation with the active GAA members in these countries / locations and / or the local alumni associations, as may be applicable / suitable.

3. The Membership Drive would be focused, for the time being, on India, U.S.A., Canada, UK and the Middle East. It was suggested that some 3,500 personal e-mails should be sent to the ex-students, who have already registered on the website, to be followed up by a written request subsequently, appealing to them to join as life members of GAA.



Amitabha Ghoshal (57CE), President, GAABESUS - setting the ground rules for the meeting

Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal, Dr. Swapan Saha, Dr. S. K. Karmakar and Mr. Santanu Chatterjee would make an attempt to identify two or three Alumni from each batch of graduates and from each local chapter and constitute a Membership Sub-Committee with them, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Amitabha Ghoshal. As for India, the focus should be on Salt Lake City, Kharagpur, Durgapur, Jamsheedpur, Ranchi, Rourkella, Bangalore, Mumbai, and New Delhi.





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Speakers at the meeting: From left (Santanu Chatterjee missing in this photo) Arun Deb, Amitabha Ghoshal, VC (Dr. N.R. Banerjea) and Santanu Karmakar

4. Organizational Work – A Sub-Committee would be formed of active and willing ex-students, say, five present faculty members and two or three from Kolkata for the purpose. Dr. Swapan Saha and Dr. S. K. Karmakar would identify the ex-students for the purpose. It was unanimously felt that Mr. Ashit Kumar Palit should be co-opted to the Adhoc Executive Committee and also inducted into the Organizational Sub-Committee.



Some of the attendees of the GAABESUS meeting on December 19, 2005.

5. A Constitutional and Legal Sub-Committee would be constituted with Mr. Santanu Chatterjee as Chairman for taking care of legal aspects, amendments to the Memorandum of Association & Regulations, to follow up actions on the FC(R)A registration and thereafter obtaining Income Tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. He would induct other members in the Sub-Committee in consultation with the other office bearers and the Ad-hoc Executive Committee.

6. A Media and Public Relations Sub-Committee would be constituted with Mr. Tarun Basu as the Chairman, who together with Dr. S. K. Karmakar and Dr. Swapan Saha would induct other members in the Sub-Committee.

7. A GAA Operations Sub-Committee would also be constituted with Dr. S. K. Karmakar as Chairman and members identified by him and Dr. Swapan Saha.



Inauguration: VC (Dr. N.R. Banerjea) on Dec 19, 2005

8. Similarly, a scholarship Sub-Committee would have to be constituted.



Inauguration: Historic moment – VC (Dr. N.R. Banerjea), Piyali Dey, Arun Deb

9. All the aforesaid Sub-Committees would be Adhoc, till formal elections take place.



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RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE ON THE DECEMBER 28, 2005 MEETING AND THE IIT/INI INITIATIVE

Report published in Anandabazar Patrika on December 28, 2005

বারো] আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা কলকাতা বুধবার ২৮ ডিসেম্বর ২০০৫ SE

বিই কলেজ সাজাচ্ছেন প্রাক্তনীরা

বিদিশা চক্রবর্তী

আধুনিক সুবিধায়ুক্ত বহুতল শিক্ষা ভবন, উন্নত মানের সাউন্ড সিস্টেম, হাজার আসনের আধুনিক অডিটোরিয়াম, বহুতল গ্রন্থাগার ভবন দিয়ে সাজানো হবে বেঙ্গল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং অ্যান্ড সায়েন্স ইউনিভার্সিটি (শিবপুর বি ই কলেজ)-কে।

বি ই কলেজের ১৫০ বছর উপলক্ষে কলেজকে নতুন ভাবে সাজাতে সাহায্য করবেন কলেজেরই প্রাক্তনীরা। সারা পৃথিবীতে বি ই কলেজের ২০ হাজারেরও বেশি প্রাক্তন ছাত্রছাত্রী আছেন। আপাতত তাঁদের মধ্যে প্রায় ২০০ জন 'গ্লোবাল অ্যালামনি অ্যাসোসিয়েশন' (জি এ এ)-এর মাধ্যমে এই সব প্রকল্প রূপায়ণে উদ্যোগী হয়েছেন। এতে প্রাথমিক ভাবে খরচ হবে প্রায় ১৫০ কোটি টাকা। জি এ এ-র সচিব ও

কলেজের শিক্ষক শান্তনু কর্মকার জানান, কলেজের পরিকাঠামো আরও ভাল করতে প্রাক্তনীদের সক্রিয় অংশগ্রহণ সুনিশ্চিত করাই এই সংগঠনের মূল উদ্দেশ্য।

শান্তনুবাবু জানান, এখন বি ই কলেজের ১৪টি বিভাগে ছাত্রছাত্রীর সংখ্যা আড়াই হাজার মতো। কম্পিউটার সীয়েন্স, তথ্যপ্রযুক্তির মতো বিষয়ের চাহিদা থাকায় ওই সব বিভাগে ছাত্র-সংখ্যা বাড়ছে। কিন্তু তাঁদের সবাইকে এখন হস্টেলে জায়গা দেওয়া যায় না। কেমিক্যাল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং, বায়ো-টেকনোলজি এবং স্নেফিট অ্যান্ড অকুপেশনাল হেলথ— এই তিনটি নতুন বিষয় শুরু করারও পরিকল্পনা আছে। সেই জন্য নতুন হস্টেল তৈরি করা হবে, যাতে সব ছাত্রছাত্রী কলেজ ক্যাম্পাসে থেকে পড়তে পারেন। ইন্টারনেট, কম্পিউটার-সহ আধুনিক সব রকম সুযোগ-সুবিধা থাকবে, এ-রকম

আটটি 'অ্যাকাডেমিক বিল্ডিং' বা শিক্ষা ভবন তৈরি করা হবে। প্রায় ১০ কোটি টাকা খরচ হবে প্রতিটিতে। অডিটোরিয়ামের জন্যও খরচ হবে প্রায় ১০ কোটি টাকা।

১৯৬৮ সালের সিভিল ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিংয়ের ছাত্র অমৃত দাস ইতিমধ্যে এক কোটি টাকা দিয়েছেন। বি ই কলেজে আই টি স্কুল তৈরি করতে এই টাকা ব্যয় হয়েছে। তা ছাড়া বিভিন্ন বিদেশি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সঙ্গে ছাত্র ও শিক্ষক বিনিময়ের পরিকল্পনা আছে।

বি ই কলেজের যে-সব প্রাক্তন ছাত্র বর্তমানে জর্জ ওয়াশিংটন এবং উইন্ডসর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে শিক্ষকতা করছেন, তাঁরাই এই বিনিময়ে উদ্যোগী হয়েছেন। এক প্রাক্তনী স্বপন সাহা বলেন, "কাজ সব শুরু হয়েছে। বার্ষিক আয়ের এক শতাংশ করে দিতে অনুরোধ করা হয়েছে প্রাক্তনীদের।" অন্যান্য জায়গা থেকেও আর্থিক সাহায্য পাওয়া যাবে বলে জানান তিনি।