

BITScan

Semester Notes

Issue 7



**BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
AND SCIENCE**

Pilani - 333031
Rajasthan

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GLEAMING SPIRIT OF INNOVATION

The First Semester 2005-2006 had the privilege of witnessing the fruition of certain pioneering innovations and hence can rightly be called **the semester of innovative endeavors**.

The semester welcomed students who were admitted through an entirely new mode of admission process namely admission through BITSAT (BITS Admission Test) a unique computer-based online admission test conducted across the length and breadth of the nation.

A new method of organizing the teaching and evaluation of the courses added vigour to the innovative endeavor. The number of tutorial sections was increased in most of the courses in order to provide extensive practice to the students and also to pave way for more interaction between the faculty and the students.



OASIS 2005 also contributed to the spirit of innovation during the semester with its novel theme *Nix Periphera* and its ingenious events.

The semester witnessed several seminars, conferences, workshops and training programmes disseminating and enriching knowledge among its participants. In addition, the faculty members published books in their areas of expertise.

Having already opened two campuses in Dubai and Goa, BITS is now forging ahead to disseminate its educational excellence by having unveiled its plan to open up another campus in Hyderabad.

ACADEMIA

A Confluence of Ideas

Seminars and Conferences

Seminar on Entrepreneurship Culture: Issues and Challenges of Small and Intermediate Entrepreneurs at Grassroots Level

The Humanistic Studies Group and the Centre for Entrepreneurial Leadership, BITS, Pilani organised

a National Seminar on Entrepreneurship Culture: Issues and Challenges of Small and Intermediate Entrepreneurs at Grassroots Level during 2-4 September, 2005. Attended by about 85 delegates the seminar stressed the need for institutes to equip students with innovative and analytical skills and also to lay emphasis on entrepreneurship in their curriculum. Participants from various institutes like NABARD and SIDBI and the Ministry of Small Scale Industries, Govt. of India participated in the conference.



National Conference on Energy Management in Changing Business Scenario

The Centre for Renewable Energy and Environment Development (CREED) organised a two day national conference on **Energy Management in Changing Business Scenario (EMCBS-2005)** during 8-9 October, 2005 with a view to exchange various ideas regarding planning, optimisation, integration and management of conventional and renewable energy technologies and discuss the changing regimes in the management of energy.



The conference was sponsored by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Indian Renewable Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), Ministry of Non Conventional Energy Sources (MNES), New Delhi, Tata BP Solar, Bangalore and Energy & Fuel Users Association of India, (ENFUSE), Chennai.

More than seventy delegates comprising academicians, researchers, energy planners and representatives from various industries across the nation presented their scholarly papers.

National Symposium on Recent Trends in Physics

The Physics Group, BITS, Pilani, organised a two-day National Symposium during 4-5 November 2005 to mark the centennial of the publication of the three classic papers on Special Relativity, Brownian motion and Photoelectric effect by Albert Einstein. Prof. L. K. Maheshwari inaugurated the symposium and stressed the need for such conferences to attract young people to undertake their studies in basic sciences. Dr. Chandrasekhar, Director CEERI delivered the key note address on *VLSI Design*, an upcoming field in interdisciplinary studies.



Attracting an overwhelming response from an enthusiastic audience comprising students and faculty, Dr. H.C. Verma, Prof., IIT Kanpur and noted Physicist conducted a lecture demonstration on teaching Physics effectively through simple experiments.



Workshops

Workshop on Professional Effectiveness

The Economics & Finance Group and the Management Group jointly organised a two-day programme on *Professional Effectiveness* during 20-21 August, 2005 for the benefit of various Heads of schools in Pilani. Twenty nine participants,

including Principals, Vice Principals and Heads of departments, attended the programme. With its focus on creating an awareness among the participants about the requisite skills that can help in improving their professional effectiveness, the programme covered a range of topics related to today's challenging educational environment.

Workshop on the Safety of Rural Roads

Aimed at emphasizing the importance of road user education as well as of the proper legal assistance for accident victims, the workshop was conducted in collaboration with the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD) on 12 September 2005.



Delegates from various countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the workshop. With Dr. P.K. Nanda, Director, Central Roads Research Institute (CRRRI), New Delhi as the chief guest, the workshop witnessed significant contribution from Central Road and the National Rural Road Development agency, New Delhi.

4th Asia Regional Meeting

The Annual Regional Meeting (ARM 2005) of the International Forum Group for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD) was organized and convened by Prof. A. K. Sarkar during 13-15 September, 2005. Representatives from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the meeting.



The deliberations mainly focused on Rural Road Safety issues covering Road Engineering, Signage, Vehicle Design, Education of Road Users, Enforcement of Traffic Safety Measures, etc., on a holistic basis.

Workshop on Project Formulation and Quality Monitoring under PMGSY



The workshop conducted on 8 September, 2005 attracted participants from National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA), officials from the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, and the Public Works Department of Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab, and also faculty from BITS, Pilani. The main focus of the workshop was on Road Design, Optimisation and Testing, which are indubitably important to ensure that Rural Road Development Projects are well formulated, evaluated and implemented with Total Quality embedded from Concept to Commissioning.

Training Programmes

PMGSY Training Programme for PWD Engineers

Sponsored by National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA), four training programmes (each of six-day duration) were organized under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during



October-December 2005. These training programmes were conducted for the Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers of Rajasthan. About 35 participants attended each programme.

Three more programmes have been scheduled to be held during January-March, 2006.



UGC Refresher Course on Manufacturing Excellence

Under the aegis of University Grants Commission, the Mechanical Engineering Group of the institute organized a three-week refresher programme on Manufacturing Excellence during 12-31 December 2005.



Attended by sponsored teachers of universities and technical institutions, the programme aimed at providing a platform to introduce and highlight manufacturing excellence strategies and partners.



Distinguished Lectures at BITS

Speaker	Designation	Topic	Date
Prof. N.R Nandkumar	Professor of Mathematics, Dilware State University Delaware	New techniques in Integration	23 August 2005
Dr. Kewal J Kumar	Director, Resource Center for Media Education and Research, Pune	i. Recent Trends in Indian Mass Media ii. Understanding Indian Journalism	5 and 6 September, 2005
Mr. Parsi Batliwala	G.M.South East Asia, MOTOROLA	Future of Telecommunication in India	10 September, 2005
Dr. P.K. Raman	Former Professor & Group Leader, Maths Group, BITS, Pilani	Mathematics: Its Logic and Culture	13 September, 2005
Dr. Jalal Haq	Professor of Philosophy, AMU, Aligarh	Do We know The Real Islam	30 September, 2005
Prof. Patrick Turner	Director, INSEAD, Singapore	Developing Creative Thinking	24 October 2005
Prof. H.C. Verma	Professor of Physics, IT, Kanpur	Indian Physics: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow	4 November 2005
Prof. D. Nagesh Kumar	Faculty, Deptt of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of science, Bangalore	Artificial Neural Networks in civil Engineering	7 November 2005
Prof. Ranjana Segal	Faculty, Tarrant County College, University of Texas, Arlington, USA.	Small Scale Chemistry: Integrating Lectures with Labortaories	25 November 2005
Mr. Chandra Bhople	Director, Business Development, Osellus	Entrepreneurship: The Inside Out	6 December 2005



Enriching the Learning Experience

International Seminars / Conferences

Faculty	Designation	Topic	Conference
Prof. Rajiv Kumar	Associate Professor, Mathematics Group	Multiplicative Perturbation of Generators of SemiGroups New Results and Open Problems	Conference on Differential & Difference Equations and Applications, Melbourne, USA 1-5 August, 2005
Ms. Geetha B.	Lecturer, Languages Group	Arthur C. Clarke: A Thematic Analysis	63 rd World Convention of World Science Fiction Society held at SECC, Glasgow, U.K. 4-8 August, 2005.
Prof. Sarkar A.K. and Ms. Neelima G	Professor and Dean Faculty Division I; Student	Quantification Techniques in Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning (IRAP): A Review	2nd Africa Technology Transfer Conference held in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa during 20-23 September 2005
Dr. Kole Prashant Laxman	Lecturer, Pharmacy Group	Development and Validation of a new liquid chromatography method for estimation of Rifapentine in rabbit plasma and its application in pharmacokinetic study	4th International Symposium on Separations in Biosciences, Utrecht, The Netherlands, 18-21 September 2005
Prof. L.K. Maheshwari	Pro V.C. and Director	(i) Bangalore and Guadalajara: The Tale of Two Silicon Valleys. A Comparison of the Information Technology Industries of Both cities	Panel Discussion Session –ITESO University, Guadalajara (Mexico), 29 Sept 2005
		(ii) A Decade of University Industry Linkage (UIL) Programmes in S & T areas at BITS, Pilani and their Impact on Technological Developments in India	Invited Paper Presented at the Plenary Session in International Conference: School-Industry Partnership Asia-Jalisco – 2005, ITESO University, Guadalajara (Mexico), 29 Sept., 2005
		(iii) Workshop on "Research & Development Network" – at the Electronics Systems and Informatics Department, ITESO University, Guadalajara.	ITESO University, Guadalajara (Mexico), 30 Sept 2005
Dr. Ram Kinkar Roy	Assistant Professor, Chemistry Group	Acetalization and Thioacetalization of Benzaldehyde and substituted Benzaldehydes: A case study based on Global and local Electrophilicity Descriptors	International Conference of computational methods in sciences and Engineering, Athens, Greece, 21-26 October, 2005
Prof. Raghurama. G	Professor and Dean FD II, Chief, APU	Caching and Replacement of Streaming Objects Based on a Popularity Function	International Conference on Communication & Computer networks, USA, Marina del Rey, California, USA, 24-26 October, 2005
Dr. T.S.B. Sudarshan	Assistant Professor, Computer Science Group	DRIL-A Flexible Architecture for Blowfish Encryption using Dynamic reconfiguration, Replication, Inner-loop pipelining, Loop folding techniques	Tenth Asia-Pacific Computer Systems Architecture Conference (ACSAC-05), Singapore from 24-26 October, 2005
Mr. Shrikant Yashwant Charde	Lecturer, Pharmacy Group	Compatibility Studies between Lercanidipine Hydrochloride and Selected Excipients used in Development of Controlled Release Buccal Formulations	2005 AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition, Nashville, TN, USA, November 6-10, 2005
Dr. Ishwara Bhat	Chief, Library Unit	Online Information & Education Conference	Online Information & Education Conference 2005, Bangkok, November 16-19, 2005
Prof. R.K. Mittal	Professor and Dean, ARCD	Effect of Dimensional Synthesis of Robotic Manipulator on Control Performance in Continuous Path tracking	Third International Conference on Computational Intelligence, Robotics and Autonomous Systems, Singapore December 13-16, 2005
Dr. S.P. Harsha	Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Group	Nonlinear Dynamic Response of High Speed Ball Bearings due to Surface Waviness and Unbalance Rotor	International Journal of Non-linear Sciences and Numerical Simulation, Shanghai, China, December 20-21, 2005

Prof.A.K.Sarkar, at the invitation of the Indian Roads Congress, participated in the Workshop on *Integrated Development of Rural and Arterial Road Network-Rural Roads VISION 2025* in New Delhi during 25-27 February 2005. At the invitation of the Jaipur Development Authority, he participated in the Workshop on *Towards Better Urban Governance* in Jaipur during 13-15 June 2005. He attended the 2nd Africa Technology Transfer Conference held in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa during 20-23 September 2005 to present an invited paper and also to chair a session at the invitation of the Department of Transport, KwaZulu- Natal. Prof. Sarkar attended the Executive Committee Meeting of the IFRTD held in Stockholm during 21-24 November 2005 at the invitation of the Swedish International Development Agency and IFRTD.

Prof.Rahul Banerjee, at the invitation of IEEE, authored an article featuring research and teaching being done at the institute in the area of Pervasive Computing. This paper entitled *From Research to Classroom: A Course in Pervasive Computing* has been published in the July-September Issue of IEEE Pervasive Computing. This endeavor has also led to the introduction of a course on Pervasive Computing at BITS-Pilani.

Engineers' Day

The institute celebrated the thirty-eighth Engineers' Day on 15 September, 2005. With the theme '*World Trade Organisation and Engineering Profession*' the programme aimed at understanding the implications of WTO and various other trade agreements like the General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (GATT) and subsequent General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) on the engineering profession.



Began with a floral tribute to Sir Mokshagundam Visveswaraya by the Chief Guest, Prof. L. K. Maheshwari, and an introduction to the theme by Prof. Ravi Prakash, the day witnessed

presentations on the theme by several faculty members and students from various engineering disciplines across the institute.

International Philosophy Day

The Humanistic Studies Group organized a Seminar with the theme *Facing Up the Challenges of Modern Civilization*, on 17 September 2005 to commemorate the International Philosophy Day. Shri Malay Mishra, IFS, Joint Secretary of the Overseas Indians (NRI) / PIO, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi delivered the keynote address on *The Role of Diaspora in India's Development*. A panel discussion by faculty members and students was also conducted. Prof. L. K. Maheshwari, Shri Malay Mishra, Prof. K. E Raman, Prof. Nirupama Prakash, Prof. Ishwar Bhat, Dr.Kumar Neeraj Sachdev and the students of the institute, Mr.Vinod, Mr.Raghav and Ms.Aishwarya expressed their views during this lively discussion.

Organic Chemistry Lab

Inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor on 14 December 2005, the renovated organic chemistry laboratory is equipped with new working tables having jet-black granite top which are resistant to chemical attacks. Four state-of-the-art fume cupboards have been installed for the purpose of performing hazardous reactions. Now, the laboratory has the minor equipments and apparatus such as Buchi rotary vacuum evaporators, high vacuum ovens, hot air ovens, digital automatic melting point apparatus, microwave oven, uv-visible chamber, digital balances, and low temperature storage facilities. This will be an important facility for all the courses and research work involving synthetic organic chemistry of chemistry and pharmacy groups.



Penguin Book Festival, 8-20 November 2005

The Penguin Book Festival was held at the Akshay Supermarket on 8-20 November 2005 in association

with Penguin India. It provided an opportunity for the faculty and students to browse through and buy the latest Penguin titles. Over 2000 Penguin books covering the subjects such as Fiction, Literature, History, Biography, Management, General Reading, General Reference and Children's books were made available at the Book Festival.



JOINING HANDS

The Centre for Desert Development Technologies C-DDT has joined hands with Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research BIDR Negev Israel. In this regard, a high powered team comprising Prof Avigad Vonshak, Prof Pedro Berliner and Prof Eilon Adar from the world renowned Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Development (BIDR) of Ben Gurion University, Negev, Israel visited BITS, Pilani on 30 August, 2005 and held technical and practical sessions pertaining to desert development technologies for an interdisciplinary team of BITS faculty and students.

Prof. V.S. Rao visited Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA from 14-17 June 2005 and presented a paper on *Practice School Programme of BITS, Pilani – A Successful Model of Practice Oriented Education* jointly authored by him and Prof. S. Venkateswaran, Vice Chancellor at the 14th World Conference on Cooperative Education including the 3rd International Conference on Practice- Oriented Education organized by World Association of Cooperative Education (WACE). He also visited Arizona State University (ASU Fulton School), and held discussions regarding collaborative academic programs, faculty research projects, continuing education and professional development.

Prof. L. K. Maheshwari and Prof. V.S. Rao visited

Mexico during 26-30 September, 2005, and participated in the 'ASIA-Jalisco-2005' Conference in Guadalajara (Mexico). They also took part in the panel discussion on Entrepreneurship. Later, Prof. Rao visited Iowa State University, USUHS,



Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and alumni chapters in USA and had discussions regarding Practice School and faculty-student exchange programmes.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and BITS-Pilani have signed a MoU about possible research-based collaboration between them under the former's iCampus programme. It has also led to BITS-Pilani being designated as the first *iCampus Hub Institution* in India. In addition to adaptation, co-development and deployment of iLabs, iMOAT and xTutor for its own students as well as helping several other interested institutions of higher learning in the country to use these resources, BITS-Pilani shall carry out joint collaborative research with researchers at MIT under the broad agreement between the two institutions. MIT shall also be provided access to the e-learning technology developed by BITS-Pilani in the process. CSD shall be the principal research laboratory involved in the process. The project website is <http://discovery.bits-pilani.ac.in/icampus/>.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Aditya Birla Scholarship

This year too, students of BITS, Pilani have bagged the prestigious Aditya Birla Scholarship. Hema Arora (ID No. 2005A2PS028) and K.Sandeep Goud (ID No. 2005A2PS372) have been selected as Aditya Birla Scholars of 2005-2006. These scholarships, awarded to 10 newly admitted

students drawn from various national-level institutions after a rigorous selection process, cover the tuition and living expenses of the students for the entire duration of their programme of studies.

Indira Gandhi NSS Award

The NSS Unit of BITS Pilani has been awarded the prestigious Indira Gandhi NSS Award at a function held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 24 September 2005, for its commendable social services. Shri Pritviraj Chauhan, Honorable Minister of State at the Prime Minister's Office presented the award to Prof. K. E. Raman, Deputy Director of the Institute and Dr. Motilal Dash,



Programme Officer, NSS. The award carries a cash prize Rs 35,000/-, a memento and a shawl.

Jana Swasthya Rakshak: Business Plan by BITSians

The Mobile Medics Team consisting of Sriram Gutta, Kavikrut, Srikanth PNV, Amit H Mirchandani and Rajashekhar MV has reached many milestones with their business plan-Jana Swasthya Rakshak. After winning the first prizes at both Conquest 2005 at BITS, Pilani (March 2005) and the Outrageous Business Plan Competition at Columbia Business School (April 2005) the team participated in Bzzwings 2005, the annual business plan competition at IIM Bangalore's annual management festival-Vista 2005.

With the team winning Rs.3 lacs as prize money, the plan was judged second while IIM Ahmadabad secured the first. On 15 December 2005, the team was honoured for its achievements by the National Entrepreneurship Network & Wadhvani Foundation at TIECon 2005, India's largest Conference on Entrepreneurship.

The plan has cleared the elimination round of the 2006 Asian Moot Competition and will fly to Bangkok, Thailand during March 2006 for the finals. Only two teams from India have reached this round: Bits, Pilani and Indian School of Business, Hyderabad.



Global 30 under 30 Awards

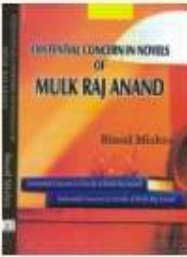
BITSAA International Inc., has initiated the **Global 30 under 30 Awards**. Started in 2005 and presented once in three years, these awards are the highest recognition by BITS Pilani community to thirty students or alums for their extraordinary achievements before the age of thirty in professional excellence, arts & culture, sports, innovation, academia and research, all round leadership, community leadership and entrepreneurship. All students from Pilani, Goa, Dubai and Distance learning programmes are also eligible to participate. Among the 30 BITSians who have received this award, Kavikrut and Ishan Shukla are continuing students at BITS, Pilani while the rest are from various previous batches graduated from BITS.

For more details visit <http://www.bitsaa.org>

Science Fiction Bursary

The Science Fiction Foundation, U.K. has selected Geetha B., Lecturer, Languages Group, for the award of a bursary for the year 2005. She is working for her doctoral thesis in science fiction on the philosophical themes in the works of Arthur C Clarke under the supervision of Prof. Meenakshi Raman, Group Leader, Languages Group. Ms. Geetha visited the Science Fiction Foundation library at Liverpool University, UK. during 8-15 August 2005.

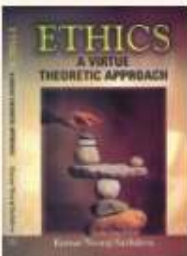
IN PRINT



Existential Concern in Novels of Mulk Raj Anand Adhyayan Publishers & Distributors, Delhi, 2005, **Binod Mishra**



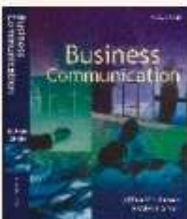
Indian Writings in English Atlantic Publishers and Distributors, Delhi, 2005, **Binod Mishra and Sanjay Kumar**



Ethics: A Virtue Theoretic Approach Adhyayan Publishers & Distributors, Delhi, 2005 **Kumar Neeraj Sachdeva**



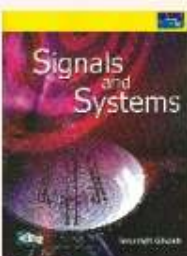
Laboratory Experiments and PSPICE Simulations in Analog Electronics Prentice Hall of India, Delhi, 2005, **L.K.Maheshwari and M.M.S.Anand**



Business Communication Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2006, **Meenakshi Raman and Prakash Singh**



Entrepreneurship Culture Allied Publishers Private Ltd., Delhi, 2005, **Motilal Dash and Umesh Dhyani**



Signals and Systems Pearson Education (Dorling Kindersley India Pvt.Ltd., Delhi), 2005, **Smarajit Ghosh**

RENEWING THE BOND

BITSAA, BITS Alumni Association organized a long awaited function to felicitate the World Record Making of BITS-69 batch during 10-11 September 2005. A gathering of over 60, BITS-69 batchmates with their families were greeted by Prof. R.K. Mittal, President BITSAA, in a lively function in the auditorium of the institute. Prof S Venkateswaran, and Prof L K Maheshwari, applauded the record making efforts of BITS-69 batch.



The concluding remark by the Vice-Chancellor *What you are in life is a gift of BITS Pilani to you and the world record you have made is your gift to your Alma Mater* received an overwhelming applause from the alumni and other spectators. Among the other highlights of the semester was the Silver Jubilee Reunion of the batch of 1975-80. The reunion of the alumni was celebrated during 30 September-2 October 2005, by organizing a plethora of events like their visit to the Institute, career mela and a lively cultural program in the auditorium of the Institute. BITSAA also organized the Vice Chancellor's Tea Party on 25 November 2005 for the graduating students.

CARING BEYOND OUR WALLS

NSS

Besides receiving the prestigious Indra Gandhi NSS Award for its commendable social services, NSS-BITS stood true to its reputation by contributing more to the society during the semester. The forum organized during 30 November-3 October 2005, a

Training of Trainers under University Talk on AIDS [UTA] Programmes jointly with NSS Regional Centre, Jaipur. Around 40 programme officers from 25 Colleges of Rajasthan attended this training programme. In addition, 120 peer educators got trained from BITS and the local colleges. As in the earlier years NSS also put up a stall during OASIS 2005 to promote handicrafts and other articles produced at the nearby villages.



A group of five NSS volunteers from BITS took the initiative to design a potter's wheel run by electricity at the institute's workshop and handed over the same to Munna Rozoario, an unemployed youth of Pilani. The product is now widely recognized in the nearby villages and the demand is increasing.



Centre for Women Studies

The UGC sponsored Centre for Women Studies, BITS, Pilani, established during March 2005, busied itself in the following endeavors during the First Semester 2005-06.



- Installation of Purioin water filters amongst a cluster of households in Raila village, Rajasthan and training to the village women to procure potable water through filters.
- A Fitness Awareness Lecture and Health-Screening for women residing in Vidya Vihar Campus and the neighbouring Jherli village.
- Indigenous Design, Preparation and Demonstration for Sanitary Napkins.
- A training programme on confidence building for school teachers in Jherli village.
- A training programme in computer literacy for rural based girls and women.
- Springboard Women's Development Programme workshops sponsored by British Council, New Delhi on various themes like Women Empowerment with Special Focus on Home Makers, Professional Development and Confidence Building for Women with special focus on School/College Teachers.
- Studies on various topics related to Public Health and Women Empowerment.



My INDIA

My India is an organization started by students of BITS-Pilani to look forward to a *Developed INDIA*. Rural Development Unit(RDU), GYANBODH (where we teach illiterate people), JanVikas (works on conservation of natural resources) are the three units of My India.

GYANBODH, a literacy program that began on 23 August 2005 with student volunteers, provided a platform for imbibing social awareness in the underprivileged and helped them improve their academic abilities. A Village Knowledge Centre by name, Vivekanand Gramin Gyan Kendra was opened at the Dhandhar village near Pilani on Sunday, 25 September 2005 and the library was inaugurated by Retd. Col. V. Ratnakar the Director of the Birla Educational Trust and Prof. Rajiv Gupta, Dean, EHD, BITS, Pilani.

BITS.aid

BITS.aid, a forum for BITSians volunteering for the community, is a strong Alumni volunteering community leveraging the BITS Pilani alumni network and its initiatives through excellent management. With its Mission to bring BITSians across the globe together and provide a forum for exchanging ideas to make society better, BITS.aid encourages BITSians with good ideas to start new projects and to encourage volunteers to contribute to ongoing projects. Many BITSians have taken initiatives to make a difference. BITS.aid is already involved in several projects such as BITSAA Rajasthan, BITSunami, Future Focus Foundation, Gyanodaya, Swadheen / Vigyan Ashram, etc.

In association with Rotary Club, Bangalore BITS.aid held "Young Stars" a Talent Competition for underprivileged kids at Bangalore on December 11, 2005. The events include Painting, Drama, Music, Dance, Story Writing, Collage, etc. Various schools which are participating include "Ananya" - a residential school for the underprivileged kids, "Makkala Jagriti" and "Sukrupa" (both being community centres for slum children) and two government schools under the Bangalore Rotary Patronage.

CREATIVE ZONE

OASIS 2005

Oasis 2005, the annual All India Cultural Festival organised by the students of BITS, Pilani, once again witnessed the participation of over 5000 students taking part in about 60 events conducted over a non-stop 96 hours during 18-21 October, 2005.



With the theme *Nix Periphera* meaning *without boundaries* the inaugural function of OASIS 2005 started off with a Flash presentation followed by an introduction to the managers of the Fest. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S. Venkateswaran declared the fiesta open by lighting the ceremonial lamp and unveiling the Art and Decoration structure depicting a spacecraft ready to take off. The inaugural function attended by a large audience witnessed an enthralling performance by the members of the Mime and Dance Clubs.



Akin to earlier years, bands were called to conduct the professional shows. The bands that performed during OASIS 2005 included Silk Route, Taantricz,

Parikrama and Prestorika. These shows attracted a huge student-gathering and overwhelmed the whole BITSian audience.

Other popular events conducted included Choreo, Gabbar Mix, Razmatazz and some street plays conducted by the Hindi and English Drama Clubs.

The key sponsor this year was Accenture Limited, a software company. Various other companies like Pepsi, LG and Hutch also sponsored several events, with Hutch even establishing a SMS service to notify students about the schedule of events. OASIS 2005, in all, accomplished its aim of providing boundless entertainment to its participants and its audience.



SPIC MACAY

The activities of the First Semester 2005-06 commenced with a "Rajasthan Folk" Music performance by Shri Bundu Khan Langa & troupe on 20 August 2005. A clear picture of the rich folk of Rajasthan, the performance received an enthusiastic response from the audience.

Uttar Pradesh Folk Music by Shri Ram Kailash Yadav & troupe organized on 23 August 2005 carried its audience back to the times of Ramayana & Mahabharata.

Another sparkling event of the semester was "Kathakali Dance Performance" by Kalamandalam Raman Kutty Nair (Kalamandalam Gopi) & troupe held on 24 September 2005. A dance performance cum workshop, this programme clearly showcased the make-up, strict diet & the complexity involved in learning this dance form.



The semester ended with an exemplary Carnatic Flute Recital by Vidwan Shashank. A child prodigy and a musical genius, he created magic with some beautiful compositions. Smt. Akkarai Subbulakshmi accompanied him on the violin, Smt. Shantala. on the flute, Smt. Sireesha on the Tanpura, & Sri. P Satish Kumar on the Mridangam.

BOSM 2005

BITS Open Sports Meet was the 20th edition of the All India Inter-Collegiate sports that BITS, Pilani conducts annually. This year, over 600 contingents from 32 premier institutes participated in various events and competitions, conducted during 15-18 September 2005.

Inaugurated by Prof. L.K. Maheshwari, the sports fest commenced with a friendly match between Mallar Reddy College of Engineering and BITS Pilani.



All the athletic events and other games attracted an enthusiastic participation of a large number of spectators though basketball matches as usual remained the major crowd-pulling event. The BOSM Quiz put the best of minds in the field of sports at work. All the athletic events and the other games witnessed a good turn out by the audience. With AIRTEL as one of its major sponsors, the event ended with a sense of achievement for the host BITSians and a triumph of joy for SBMJC which bagged the overall championship.

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We wish to thank the faculty and students of BITS who have helped us in procuring data and photographs.

Please feel free to send your comments, suggestions or feedback of any kind to mraman@bits-pilani.ac.in

INTRODUCING NEW FACULTY

S.No.	Name	Designation	Discipline	Research Areas
1.	Shri Subrata Kumar Majumder	Lecturer	Chemical Engineering	Multiphase flow fluid dynamics, Reaction engineering
2.	Dr. (Ms.) Amrata Pancholi	Lecturer	Management	Human Resource Development and Management, Knowledge Management, Customer relationship Management
3.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar Misra	Lecturer	Management	Psychology, Career planning and growth, Virtual organization behavior, Consumer behavior, Customer relationship management
4.	Dr. (Ms.) Usha B. Nair	Lecturer	Biology	Systems biology, Computational biology
5.	Dr. Jitendra Panwar	Lecturer	Biology	Plant tissue culture, Biofertilizer technology
6.	Shri Biplab Bose	Lecturer	Biology	Molecular biology, Recombinant antibodies and Computational biology
7.	Dr. (Ms.) Saumi Ray	Lecturer	Chemistry	Encapsulation of transition metal complexes in zeolites
8.	Dr. Navnit Jha	Lecturer	Mathematics	Numerical Analysis and Parallel Programming
9.	Ms. Shruti Agarwal	Lecturer	Mathematics	Partial Differential Equations
10.	Dr. V.S. Prasanna Rajan	Lecturer	Physics	Computational Electro Magnetics
11.	Dr. Gajendra Singh Chauhan	Lecturer	Languages	English language Teaching, Advertising, Business communication

BITS 'n' Pieces



Microsoft, October 5, 2005
Bengaluru Times, New Delhi

12,000-km roads completed under PM Sadak Yojana

Max Outlook

A TOTAL of 12,000 km of all-weather roads have been completed under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana (PMSSY) in September, said PT Minister, Transport, P. Venu Kumar.

He said the programme has achieved 100% completion of the roads in the country. The roads are being constructed in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Mizoram.

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बंगलौर ने जीती बिट्स चैम्पिय

Microsoft ने बिट्स चैम्पियनशिप में पाँच छात्रों को फेलोशिप प्रदान की है।

बंगलौर में आयोजित बिट्स चैम्पियनशिप में पाँच छात्रों को फेलोशिप प्रदान की है।

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Microsoft awards five fellowships