Alumni Affairs and International Programmes (AAIP) organized its flagship event with Mr. Vinod Khosla (B.Tech. in Electrical Engg., 1976), co-founder of Sun Microsystems and founder of Khosla Ventures, and one of the most distinguished alumni of IIT Delhi. His talk, held on 9th August, was entitled: 'Societal Reinvention through Technology'. Mr. Khosla talked about how the world will change by technological innovations and interventions. Almost any problem in the world can be solved by a technological innovation. In his view, the major and radical innovation will not come from any large company or enterprise but by unlikely sources: Innovators and Entrepreneurs. He advised innovators to not be afraid of failures. “If I am not failing, I am not taking enough risks”, said Mr Khosla, and without risks no major innovations would come. He talked about how innovations and entrepreneurs would bring a change in Transportation, Housing, Medical Care, Materials, AI, 3D Printing, Robotics and 'Densification & Dematerialization'.

After the presentation, there was a very interesting fireside chat with Director, Prof Ramgopal Rao who asked him about the role IIT Delhi had in his life. "The major learning at IIT was to learn how to learn". Mr Khosla explained how the IIT system, which looks so inflexible was indeed very flexible. Mr. Khosla along with Prof. Puri of Maths department were able to start hobby classes for programming for IITD students (In 1970s programming was not taught as a formal subject) and how he along with Prof. Guha was able to start biomedical engineering programme with AIIMS which led to the foundation of CBME at IITD. However, despite enough prodding by Prof Rao, Mr. Khosla did not let the audience know of the 'crazy' things he did at IITD. On being asked about role of education in entrepreneurship, Mr Khosla said that for a good tech company higher education was an important ingredient. On the role of MBA, Mr. Khosla’s said that for entrepreneurs, MBA is not very relevant. In fact, working in a startup provides more relevant experience than MBA. On his belief of luck being an important ingredient, Mr Khosla explained that when someone fails for a longer time and keeps on trying, then there is a bigger probability of success because one has been trying for a longer time. Further, he termed this probability of success as 'Luck'.

The video recording of Mr Vinod Khosla’s speech is available at the link: https://youtu.be/lK5KySBeIyA
The Alumni Association, IIT Delhi organized a fireside chat with Chetan Bhagat (95 batch, ME) on 4th August 2019. Out of many probable options for interviewers for Chetan, Dean Alumni Affairs & International Programmes (AAIP), Prof Sanjeev Sanghi happened to be the clear choice. Prof Sanghi knows Chetan ever since he joined IITD because Chetan Bhagat happens to be amongst the first batches taught by Prof Sanghi.

As mentioned by Chetan himself during the talk, Five Point Someone character, 'Veera' was based largely on Prof Sanghi. It was absolute pleasure to have Chetan's mother present in the audience to listen to the talk. Chetan, in his own style, had an interesting exchange with Dean AAIP but Chetan did not reveal the identity of the Professor whose daughter he dated at IIT Delhi. Chetan also talked about his experience of re-climbing the platform in front of the Institute bell after 20 years, last year. During the talk, there was also a discussion on the influence of Five Point Someone and 3 idiots in reforming the education system.

Chetan also collected his IIT Delhi Distinguished Alumni Award from the Director.
With the purpose of boosting research in sensor technology and instrumentation, a centre for Sensors, Instrumentation and Cyber-Physical System Engineering (SeNSE) was inaugurated at IIT Delhi 6 August 2019. The centre will offer MTech & MS programs to students and also part-time courses for better outreach. SeNSE has been developed with an aim to inculcate industry-level skills in students and eventually, act as an incubation centre. SeNSE, which plans to recruit around 15-20 faculty in two years, was restructured and upgraded from the previously existing Instrument Design Development Centre (IDDC).

“Our technology reached every Indian during the last elections through VVPAT,” said Prof Subrat Kar, head of SeNSE, who had earlier developed a sensor system to prevent the death of elephants on railway tracks. The centre will work as an interdisciplinary unit working on three application domains: Defence, Medical and Industrial applications. The six core areas covered by the centre will include Optical engineering, Electronic system design, Advanced optical fabrication, Micro-opto-electro-mechanical systems, Sensor technology and Cyber-physical systems.

**HRD Minister Inaugurates TechEx at IIT Delhi**

Technology exhibition, TechEx, was held at IIT Delhi Lecture Hall Complex on 4th August 2019. Researchers displayed several innovations developed under IMPRINT (Impacting Research Innovation and Technology) and UAY(Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana), the flagship schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).

Speaking at the event, Hon’ble HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ said, “Research is need of the hour and through it, we can shift to a new paradigm of development. I see the future of India in front of me at this exhibition”.
IIT Delhi celebrates 73rd Independence Day
IIT Delhi celebrated the 73rd Independence Day with fervour and enthusiasm. Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi, hoisted the Indian tricolour flag and then addressed the audience urging the IIT Delhi community to contribute to the nation’s development through collective efforts in the field of science, technology, education and innovation setting benchmarks for the entire nation.

During the event, the Director presented 'Sansthan Incentive Award' and 'Shri Ram Rishi Singh Award and Mrs Malti Singh Memorial Staff Cash Award' to fifteen and two employees of the institute, respectively. Board for Hostel Management (BHM) and Security Unit awardees were also honoured during the celebrations. Song and dance performances by the students of the nursery school and Kendriya Vidyalaya situated at the IITD campus enlivened the occasion. The Board for Sports Activities organized a "freedom run". More than 100 students, faculty and staff members, and families participated in the run.

IIT Delhi celebrates Institute Day
The Institute Day was celebrated on August 16, 2019. A session was organized on the occasion with Director V Ramgopal Rao and acting CMD, Central Electronics Limited, Mr B. N. Sarkar chairing the same. Senior faculty members Prof S. K. Koul and Prof Vinod Chandra were honoured during the event for their contribution to industry-focused research. They have played a pivotal role in the development of Phase Control Module and Analog Axle Counter for CEL that are key components of various projects of Indian defence and railways. These technologies were developed at the Centre for Applied Research in Electronics (CARE) at IIT Delhi.
Advanced Computing and Communications Society has selected Prof. V Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi, for the prestigious ACCS-CDAC Foundation Award 2019 in recognition for his work on the science and engineering of nano-scale electronic devices that had a significant industrial impact.

The award carries a cash prize of ₹1 lakh, a citation and a plaque. The award will be presented at ADCOM 2019, the annual flagship conference of Advanced Computing and Communications Society (ACCS), at the International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore (IIITB) on September 6, 2019. Prof Rao has over 450 publications in various journals and 43 patents in the areas of electron devices and nano electronics.

IIT Delhi has been selected by the Centre’s Department of Science and Technology (DST) for setting up Sophisticated Analytical and Technical Help Institute (SATHI). DST will provide Rs 125 crore, mostly non-recurring grants, to IIT Delhi in the next 3 financial years starting from 2019-2020. “IIT Delhi is honoured to shoulder this responsibility for the benefit of the nation.”, said Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi. The SATHI facility, to be set up in the Sonipat campus (Haryana) of IIT Delhi, will be equipped with major analytical instrument and advanced manufacturing tools.

IIT Delhi signed an MoU with Denmark based pump manufacturing company, DESMI under the aegis of the Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA), Govt of India to set up ‘DESMI Centre of Excellence on Waste to Wealth” at IIT Delhi. The MoU signing ceremony included Prof Krishnaswamy Vijay Raghavan (PSA to Govt. of India), Prof V Ramgopal Rao (Director, IIT Delhi) and Mr Henrik Sorensen (CEO, DESMI). The centre aims to remove the floating debris from water bodies in Delhi such as Babarpur and Barapullah and generate resources from the mixed waste feedstock collected.

Industries under the banner of Global Forum for Industrial Development (GFID) have approached Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), an industrial interface wing of IIT Delhi, requesting the institute to provide training sessions to GFID members. “With limited resources, small scale industries struggle to keep themselves updated with technology advancement and measures to remain in business. Assistance from an institute like IIT will help industries to cope with challenges”, said GFID president Deepak Bhandari.
IITD NEWS

Stanford University’s Knight Hennessy Scholarship Information Session

AAIP organized an informative session about Stanford University’s ‘Knight Hennessy Scholarship’ on 19th August 2019. Knight Hennessy Scholarship is an international graduate-level scholarship program to study at Stanford University. Established in 2016, the program prepares students to take leadership roles in finding creative solutions to complex global issues. Every year, up to 100 high-achieving students from around the world receive full funding to pursue any graduate degree at Stanford, including the DMA, JD, MA, MBA, MD, MFA, MS, and PhD programs, as well as joint and dual degrees.

Mr Derrick Bolton, Dean of Admissions, did a presentation about the program talking about the procedure and eligibility criteria. Ms Anoma Bhat and Ms Shivani Guptasarma, two of the current Knight Hennessy Scholars, also addressed the audience discussing their lives at Stanford.

IIT Delhi and AIIMS Conduct Workshop on Bio-Design and Innovation

A month-long workshop on bio-design and innovation was jointly conducted by IIT Delhi and AIIMS. 15 students and faculty from both the institutions participated in the workshop. It was conducted by Prof PVM Rao and Prof Neetu Singh from IIT Delhi and Dr Avijit Bansal from AIIMS. Prototypes of innovative medical devices were developed to provide insights into the steps of developing a marketable medical product.

Hearing the patient’s heartbeats collectively is extremely helpful in mass learning at medical schools. The broadcasting stethoscope would enable the students to simultaneously learn the auscultation technique - listening to sounds from the heart, lungs and other organs for diagnosis. This stethoscope will not only assist faculty members in the mass teaching and bring uniformity in the observations made by the students but also reduce the discomfort a patient goes through during the conventional class.

Tech4Seva - A National Workshop Connecting Technology to Community Inaugurated at IIT Delhi

A three-day national workshop, Tech4Seva, was organized by IIT Delhi and Vijnana Bharati which brought together the technology developers, users and providers on the same platform with a focus on marginalized community. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST and Shri R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary, MHRD. In his welcome address, Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Director IIT Delhi, emphasized connecting higher educational institutions with the society and rural areas. During the inaugural session, Prof Vivek Kumar, CRDT, IIT Delhi welcomed the representatives from various institutions such as DST, DBT, DRDO, ICMR, ICAR, IITs, CSIR, MGIRI, UBA, RuTAG, Grassroot innovators and startups.
Grammy-Winning Artistes Launch Kindness Concert at IIT Delhi

Hundreds of college students from across the city gathered at Dogra Hall, IIT Delhi to attend the Kindness Concert on 23rd August 2019. The concert boasted of an ensemble of two Grammy award-winning musicians along with several international artistes. It also concluded the three-day-long World Youth Conference on Kindness. Anantha Duraiappah (Director, UNESCO MGIEP) graced the occasion with his presence.

The lineup included Grammy award-winning musicians Ricky Kej and Laura Dickinson, along with Brennon Denfer, Manoj George, Fateh Ali Khan, Murad Ali Khan, IP Singh and Manjunath, who came together for a show that transcended language and evoked environmental consciousness. The attendees were pleasantly surprised when world-renowned speed painter, Vilas Nayak, took the stage at the concert. Within minutes, he created from scratch, a mural of Mahatma Gandhi, in sync with the music. After a slew of upbeat performances, Ricky Kej announced the world premiere of the kindness anthem and the entire assembly broke into a medley.

India-Taiwan Seminar, “Better Technology, Better Life: Agriculture, Food and Water Safety, and Photomechanics”

Education Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre (TECC) in India organized an Indian-Taiwan seminar “Better Technology, Better Life: Agriculture, Food and Water Safety, and Photomechanics” at IIT Delhi, on 2nd August 2019. The respective teams were led by Mr Peters Chen, Director (Education), TECC and Prof Sanjeev Sanghi, Dean AAIP, IIT Delhi. During the event, Prof Vinoth Kumar from the Department of Medicinal and Applied Chemistry, Kaohsiung Medical University, presented a paper on Analysis of Food and Water Safety and Challenges in Emerging Countries. The seminar was also attended by Prof Subrat Kar, Head of SeNSE, Dr S. K. Tyagi from the Centre of Energy Studies at IIT Delhi and Professor Wei-Chung Wang, Director at Centre for India Studies, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan.
IIT Delhi Launches Software to Design Cheaper, Durable Glass for Medical Equipment

A team of researchers at IIT Delhi have launched a software that enables the design and production of cheap glass-based products with high damage tolerance. Prof N M Anoop Krishnan, who joined as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engg. in 2017, is the Principal Investigator of the research team. The machine learning–based software named Python for Glass Genomics (PyGGi) was launched at an event held at IIT Delhi which was attended by Dr K. Annapurna, Senior Scientist, Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI) and Venkatesh Krishnamoorthy, Country Manager, BSA Software Alliance among others from the industry and academia.

IIT Delhi Researchers Developing Technology for Recovery of Metals and Fuel from E-Waste

Researchers at IIT are developing sustainable technology for electronic waste(e-waste) management. To put in perspective, e-waste is one of the fastest-growing waste streams with recent reports showing about 50 million tons of e-waste generated per year. The researchers are working towards the development of an integrated process for the conversion of e-waste plastic into valuable products followed by the separation of different metals for further reuse. Prof K K Pant, head of the Chemical Department of IIT Delhi, is the Principal Investigator of the research team.

Spin Torque-Generated Magnetic Droplet Solitons

Researchers led by Dr P. K. Muduli, Department of Physics at IIT Delhi, have created a novel SpinDiode for Radio Frequency Detection which allows devices to operate at very high frequencies with unprecedented high detection sensitivity. The work is a result of the team’s collaboration with the Department of Physics, University of Gothenburg, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden and the North Carolina State University, USA. The research team successfully demonstrated the first experimental observation of the so-called magnetic nano-droplets which was predicted 35 years ago. The SpinDiode can have a significant impact on telecommunication and spin-wave based computing.

IITD Researches develop Nanostructured Thin-Film Electrodes for High Temperature Fuel Cells

Researchers at the Renewable Energy and Chemicals (REC) group at IIT Delhi have developed nanostructured thin-film electrodes for high-performance fuel cells, using quantum mechanical density functional theory (DFT) simulations and well-defined experiments. Their application in Solid Oxide Fuel Cells (SOFCs) is important since SOFCs are the most efficient devices in converting chemical energy to electrical energy. The research work has also been published in Applied Materials & Interfaces Journal, an interdisciplinary journal of the American Chemical Society(ACS). The research team, led by Prof M Ali Haider, Department of Chemical Engineering, includes Uzma Anjum, Tuhin S. Khan, Manish Agarwal.
International delegations received at IIT Delhi

A. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Abdullah Al Baeli - Vice Chancellor, United Arab Emirates University visited IIT Delhi: 7th August 2019

B. Mr. Chinthaka S. Lokuhetti, Secretary, Ministry of Science, Technology and Research, Sril Lanka visited IIT Delhi along with three other delegates: 13th August 2019

C. Dr. Meenakshi Arora, Director, Melbourne India Postgraduate Program/Academy (MIPP/MIPA), Assistant Dean International-India, Melbourne School of Engineering: 19th August 2019

D. 54th Know India Programme (KIP), 40 students from various countries: 20th August 2019

E. A ten member delegation, led by Mr. Buti Manamela, Deputy Minister Higher Education, Science and Innovation, South Africa: 28th August 2019
Faculty Superannuated
August 2019

Prof Ravi Kant Soni is from the Physics Department of IIT Delhi and heads a group investigating Laser & ion-induced nanopatterning, Core-shell nanostructures, and Pulse laser ablation of gold nanoparticles for surface-enhanced fluorescence and Raman spectroscopy.

Prof Soni completed his M.Sc. in Applied Physics with specialization in Quantum Electronics in 1979 from Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi with first-rank. Further, Prof Soni obtained a PhD in the field of Raman scattering in semiconductors in 1987 from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Prof Soni was a Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research, University of Osaka, Japan from 1990-1991 working on Ultrashort strained-layer superlattices and modulated quantum semiconductor structures. From 1998-2000, Prof Soni was with the Department of Physics, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, USA working on nanocrystalline silicon and GaN-based alloy systems.

Prof Soni supervised a total of 16 PhD theses, 45 MTech/MSc projects and worked on 12 sponsored research projects, and 3 industrial consultancy projects during his career. He established international collaborations with Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research, Osaka University, University of Dhaka and National Academy of Sciences of Belarus in the area of quantum semiconductor structures and laser processing of nanomaterials. He was part of the committees that evaluated DRDO projects related to lasers and spectroscopy domain. He is the National Coordinator of IIT-PAL (Professor Assisted Learning), an initiative of MHRD, since 2016. Prof Soni received the award for Outstanding contribution to digital education from the President of India in 2017.
**GAIL Appoints Dr Ashutosh Karnataka as CMD**

Dr Ashutosh Karnataka (M.Tech. in Energy Studies, 1992) assumed charge of CMD, GAIL (Gas Authority of India Ltd.) on 1st August 2019 after two five-year terms served by Bhuwan Chandra Tripathi. Dr Karnataka will also concurrently serve as Director – Projects, which he assumed charge of in 2014. With a long career spanning over 37 years, he has been developing large scale infrastructure projects acquiring hands-on expertise in Contract Negotiation & Management and Conflict Resolution. He has also authored several books on a range of topics including project management, Oil & Gas and self-development.

**IIT Delhi Alumni Launch Flexmo, World’s First Self-Standing Crutch**

Flexmo, a user-friendly crutch with a better grip and higher durability was launched at IIT Delhi on August 9. The product has been developed by Flexmotiv Technologies Pvt. Ltd., founded by Arvind S A (MS in Mechatronics, Robotics and Automation Engg., 2018), Srinivas Adepu (M.Tech. in Mechanical Design, 2017) and Girish Yadav (B.Tech. in Industrial & Productions Engg., 2018). Being referred to as 'all-terrain crutch', the product also substantially reduces side-effects of a traditional crutch such as body deformation, crutch palsy, etc. The team was mentored by Prof Jitendra Khatait and Prof Sudipto Mukherjee.

The prototype was built in January 2017 and since then there have been 60 prototypes with improvisations. The IRD start-up fund helped the founders map the contours for their company. Later, they got more grants including the BIRAC BIG 2018 and Korean Grand Startup Challenge for pursuing their research.

The product will soon be available on e-commerce platforms priced at Rs 2999/.

**Gurtej Sandhu: World’s 7th Best Inventor with More Patents than Thomas Edison**

Dr Gurtej Singh Sandhu (M.Tech. in Electrical Engg., 1985) is placed 7th on the list of most prolific inventors sorted in order of the number of patents, with over 1300 patents to his name. Dr Sandhu is currently Senior Fellow and Vice President at Micron Technology, where he has held several engineering and management roles since 1990. He is a Fellow of IEEE and received the IEEE Andrew S. Grove Award for outstanding contributions to silicon CMOS process technology that enables DRAM and NAND memory chip scaling.
Digital Investment Start-Up Upwardly Acquired by Competitor Scripbox

Upwardly group will be joining Scripbox, and the founders of Upwardly will take on leadership roles.

Upwardly and Scripbox provide personal wealth management platforms that allow investors to buy and sell equity, debt, and tax-saving mutual funds. Upwardly was founded in 2016 by Prateek Mehta, Prithvi Raj Tejavath, Shashank Agrawal (B.Tech. in Civil Engg., 1999 batch) and Vivek Agarwal. The company provides services to Indians and NRIs spread across 700+ cities and towns in India and the diaspora across the five continents. ScripBox was founded in 2012 with its headquarters in Bangalore.

Social Commerce Start-Up Meesho Raises $125 Million in Naspers-Led Funding

Meesho is an Indian-origin social commerce platform founded by Vidit Aatrey (B.Tech. in Electrical Engg., 2012) and Sanjeev Bamwal (B.Tech. in Electrical Engg., 2012) in December 2015. In a fundraiser led by South African media and internet group Naspers, Meesho bagged $125 million with participation from Facebook and existing investors SAIF Partners, Sequoia Capital, Shunwei Capital, RPS and Venture Highway. Vidit Aatrey (CEO, Meesho) tweeted a mission to enable 20M micro-entrepreneurs in India.

Meesho enables small businesses and individuals to start their online stores via social channels such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram etc.

Metro Cash & Carry Aims to Digitise Kirana Stores in Partnership with ePayLater

In association with ePayLater, the wholesale retailer Metro Cash & Carry has created a mobile application 'Digital Shop' to digitise Kirana shops' business operation instantly without any additional investment. This move is part of the company’s next phase of Kirana digitisation program. Metro Cash & Carry India MD & CEO, Arvind Mediratta (B.Tech. in Chemical Engg., batch 1989) said, “Through this strategic initiative with ePayLater, we aim to help facilitate a more level-playing field for these small and independent businesses”.
Hike Brings Ankur Narang to Lead the App’s Renewed Focus on AI and ML

AI-driven creation has helped Hike add 60K stickers with a million weekly active users. Intending to build an ecosystem for Sticker Chat, Hike has appointed Ankur Narang (B.Tech., 1994 and PhD, 2011 in Computer Science) to lead the AI work of the company, as the Vice President of AI and Digital Technologies. Narang’s primary focus will be on Sticker Chat, but he would also be consulting on everything that Hike is working on. Mittal, founder and CEO, said Hike is targeting a million stickers by the end of the year.

Netcore Ropes in Rajeev Soni as Chief Revenue Officer, India

Netcore has appointed Rajeev Soni (M.Tech. in Technology Management, 1995) as the company’s Chief Revenue Officer for India. He will be leading a 100+ strong high-performance sales and customer success team at Netcore. Soni was most recently at appICE.io, where he served as Managing Partner since 2017 and during his tenure, he helped the company achieve 5-fold growth. Netcore is an AI-powered Growth Marketing platform designed to help marketers listen, analyse and build 1:1 smart conversations with consumers.
1994 Silver Jubilee Reunion Endowment*- Rs. 1.96 Cr.
1982 Pearl Reunion Endowment*- Rs. 8.71 L
*Cumulative fund

Ramesh Kapoor Scholarship - Rs 59.22 L
Pranab Chatterjee Family Scholarship - Rs. 3.97 L
Kartikeya Gupta Scholarship - Rs. 3.00 L

Reba and Pranab Excellence Award - Rs. 1.98 L

Sweta Estates Pvt. Ltd. (Amarjit Bakshi) - Rs 1.00 Cr.
Soumitra Datta Chair - Rs. 19.69 L
Neilom Foundation - Rs. 1.38 L
SAVE THE DATE

1. **INDUSTRY DAY**
   September 21 2019

2. **SILVER JUBILEE REUNION (1995 BATCH)**
   December 20-22 2019

3. **ALUMNI DAY: THE HOMECOMING**
   December 22 2019

4. **PEARL REUNION (1985 BATCH)**
   December 27-29 2019

5. **RUBY REUNION (1979 BATCH)**
   February 01-02 2020
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