



THE FIFTH ESTATE

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Pic: Yassin - Media Club

Institute Placements

The placement season this year was a time to cheer and celebrate compared to the previous years that suffered heavily from the recession. It marks, for the final year students, the end of a colourful student life at IIT Madras and the beginning of a remarkable journey wherein they would be expected to apply everything they learnt in the past few years and work towards solving real life problems. Like last year, we at T5E analyzed the placement data and have presented the results below.

Trivia: Engineering Design's first batch of dual degree students had passed out last year and this year marked the first batch of MA students passing out from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences.

A whopping 723 students were placed this year (collectively close to 900 offers were made) in a wide range of companies – technical companies, consultancy firms, universities, banks, the Indian navy, ISRO and so on.

And like every year there were a few departments that did very well at campus placements while the others didn't perform so well.

The common notion that CGPA is strongly linked to placements is seemingly true as indicated by the figures below. The other notion that people with a strong 'app' profile occasionally face problems at placements was also proved somewhat true with the 8-9 CGPA bracket earning a higher average package than the ones with CGPAs between 9-10.

Sr. No	Branch	Number of Placements						
		B.Tech	Dual de- gree	M.Tech	PhD	M.S.	M.Sc	M.A
1	Aerospace	13	10	10	-	7	-	-
2	Applied Mech	-	-	9	-	7	-	-
3	Biotechnology	17	8	3	3	-	-	-
4	Chemical	43	10	14	1	3	-	-
5	Chemistry	-	-	-	4	-	1	-
6	Civil	21	16	19	-	3	-	-
7	CSE	19	13	44	1	10	-	-
8	Electrical	36	48	38	-	11	-	-
9	ED	-	21	0	-	3	-	-
10	Engg Physics	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Mathematics	-	-	6	-	-	7	-
12	Mechanical	53	46	51	3	12	-	-
13	Metallurgy & Mat. Science	15	7	9	-	2	-	-
14	Nav. Arch	12	4	6	1	-	-	-
15	Physics	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
16	Total	238	184	210	14	58	8	12

T5E hopes this article helps the future batches in whatever way it can and wishes all the people passing out this year good luck.

This article was compiled using statistics from

IIT Madras' Placement Office. Erroneous or non-numerical data such as people with a CGPA of 0 or pay packages with sub-clauses, etc. were excluded. All pay packages in foreign currency were converted to INR as per the exchange rates of 17th February, 2011.

Companies that visited on Day 1 & Day 2

Day 1

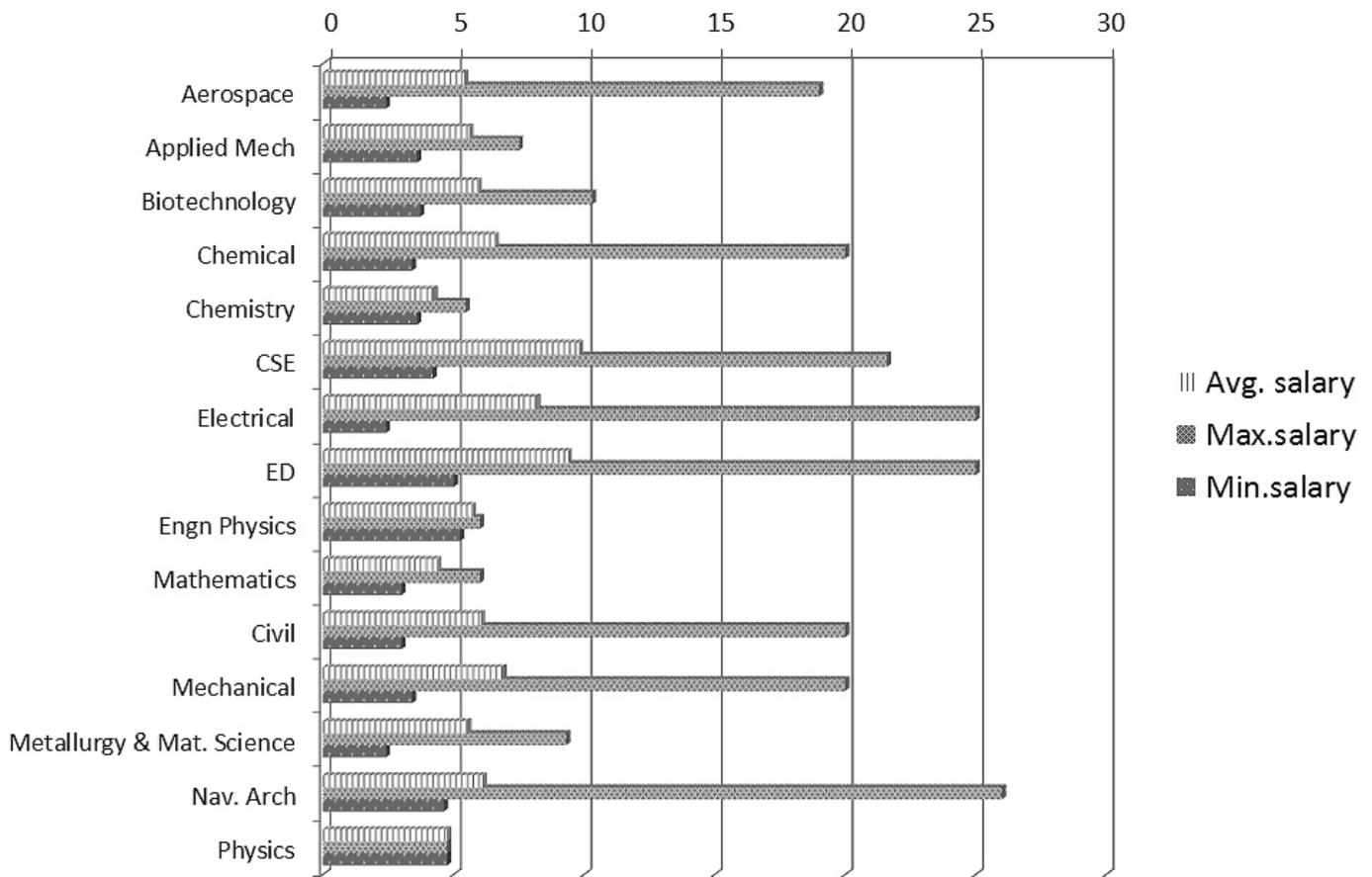
Boston Consulting Group, Deutsche Bank Group, Goldman Sachs, IBM Research Ltd, ITC Ltd, McKinsey & Company, Inc, Morgan Stanley - Strats & Modeling Div, Transocean, Facebook

Day 2

Nomura Structured Finance India Pvt Ltd, Capital One Services, Alcatel-Lucent India Ltd, Google India, Microsoft Corp, Schlumberger Asia Services Ltd, Citibank NA, Applied Micro, Credit Suisse

Sr. No	Branch	Avg. salary	Max.salary	Min.salary
1	Aerospace	5.40	19.00	2.40
2	Applied Mech	5.59	7.50	3.60
3	Biotechnology	5.91	10.30	3.72
4	Chemical	6.58	20.00	3.40
5	Chemistry	4.22	5.46	3.60
6	Civil	6.039	20.00	3.00

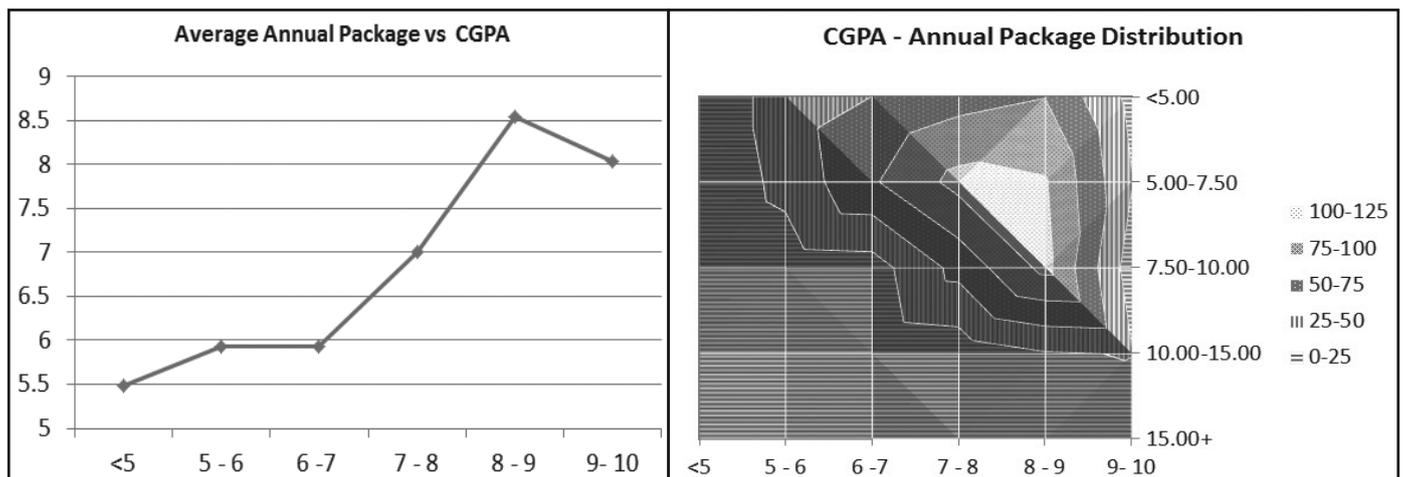
Sr. No	Branch	Avg. salary	Max.salary	Min.salary
7	CSE	9.80	21.60	4.20
9	Electrical	8.16	25.00	2.40
10	ED	9.37	25.00	5.00
11	Engg Physics	5.70	6.00	5.25
12	Mathematics	4.37	6.00	3.00
13	Mechanical	6.88	20.00	3.40
14	Metallurgy & Mat. Science	5.52	9.31	2.40
15	Nav. Arch	6.10	26.00	4.62
16	Physics	4.74	4.74	4.74



	Aerospace Engineering		Applied Mechanics		Biotechnology		Chemical Engineering		Chemistry	
BTech	13/14	93%	0/0	0%	17/24	71%	43/50	86%	0/0	0%
Dual	10/11	91%	0/0	0%	8/16	50%	10/16	63%	0/0	0%
MTech	11/12	92%	9/10	90%	3/6	50%	14/34	41%	0/0	0%
PhD	0/2	0%	0/0	0%	3/11	27%	1/6	17%	4/8	50%
MS	7/12	58%	7/10	70%	0/1	0%	3/4	75%	0/0	0%
MSc	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	1/19	5%
Total	41/51	80%	16/20	80%	31/58	53%	71/110	65%	5/27	19%

	Computer Science and Engineering		Electrical Engineering		Engineering Design		Engineering Physics		Mathematics	
BTech	19/21	90%	36/38	95%	0/0	0%	8/12	67%	0/0	0%
Dual	13/14	93%	48/53	91%	21/26	81%	0/0	0%	0/1	0%
MTech	44/49	90%	38/48	79%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	6/10	60%
PhD	1/1	100%	0/5	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/1	0%
MS	10/12	83%	11/13	85%	3/3	100%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%
MSc	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	7/24	29%
Total	87/97	90%	133/157	85%	24/29	83%	8/12	67%	13/36	36%
	Civil Engineering		Mechanical Engineering		Metallurgical and Materials Engg.		Naval Architecture		Physics	
BTech	21/31	68%	53/63	84%	16/26	62%	12/16	75%	0/0	0%
Dual	17/21	81%	46/51	90%	7/10	70%	4/8	50%	0/0	0%
MTech	20/33	61%	59/73	81%	11/18	61%	5/30	17%	2/7	29%
PhD	0/3	0%	3/11	27%	0/2	0%	0/0	0%	1/1	100%
MS	3/6	50%	12/16	75%	2/3	67%	0/4	0%	0/0	0%
MSc	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/0	0%	0/13	0%
Total	61/94	65%	173/214	81%	36/59	61%	21/58	36%	3/21	14%

CGPA range	Average salary	Salary brackets						Undisclosed	Total
		15.00+	10.00-15.00	7.50-10.00	5.00-7.50	<5.00			
<5	5.479	0	0	1	5	5	3	14	
5 - 6	5.928	0	2	12	32	37	2	98	
6 - 7	5.931	0	6	14	72	50	6	190	
7 - 8	7.000	8	10	58	108	65	18	307	
8 - 9	8.539	14	23	107	102	74	27	416	
9 - 10	8.034	3	26	12	26	17	14	122	



Extra Mural Lectures

February witnessed three very interesting Extra Mural Lectures on diverse themes by Shukla Bose, P. Sainath and Atul Kulkarni.

EML by Ms Shukla Bose

"I am not comfortable standing at podium and talking to and sitting audience." began Shukla Bose, founder, CEO of Parikrma Humanity Foundation at her EML themed "One step at a time" "I am a grass root practioner who walks through streets and slum areas and lets her work do the talking. However, I accepted this invitation from the EML team of IIT Madras to give a lecture on my journey as a social entrepreneur because I believe today's youth has tremendous potential to bring about a change in our country. And I don't want them to make the same mistakes as I did when I started out."

After two decades in the upper echelons of the corporate world as the MD of Resort Condominiums India, Shukla Bose quit a high-flying job to help the slum children of Bangalore. Investing all her life's savings to launch the Parikrma Humanity Foundation, she plunged into her mission to empower her wards through the provision of equal opportunity education in English.

She described her journey as eventful- at times frustrating but extremely enriching. She chose to work on one child at a time such a procedure was far more feasible and effective instead of working with masses. Fulfilling dreams and unleashing the latent potential of 800 million underprivileged children has become a purpose of her life. Continuing on the same issue, she stressed on the importance of the purpose of life and factors which influence the same. Power of enthusiasm, power in odds, power to stand up against in justice, power of reso-

lution and the power of death are a few to name. She almost stunned the audience into silence by these words. "I was mentally writing my obituary." she said. "I had power, exposure, experience and respect. Yet, I felt that eventually I would be doing the same thing, over and over again here. I got restless, as I wanted to make a difference to society, leave a lasting legacy."

After that she spoke about her maiden entrepreneur venture, Parikrma- a 360-degree development program (3DP) that gives the slum children the ability to compete on equal terms, enabling them to break their cycle of poverty. It provides the children with a complete education; the empowerment in English enables them to compete with children from some of the best schools in India. Parikrma takes in children from the age of five and goes all the way till they start earning a living. This end to end (e2e) approach is what guarantees a high success rate. Since its initiation on 6th June 2003, the foundation now has 4 schools and 1 junior college across the country.

There was a short video screening on the children of Parikrma which showcased their talent and achievements which would have been impossible to be realised without Parikrma. It also showed the respective families who spoke about the wave of positive change brought in their lives by the foundation. The immensely inspiring talk concluded with a Q &A session with the audience.

EML by P. Sainath

If any Insti machaan thought the topic "The Age of Inequality: Farm Crisis, Food Crisis & Media" was far removed from his own life, the Extra Mural Lecture by Rural Affairs Editor of The Hindu and Ramon Magsaysay Award Winner P Sainath would have sufficed to bring about an attitudinal epoch- and how! It was, unequivocally, one of the most stimulating and thought provoking lectures in the history of EMLs in IIT Madras.

Sainath began the hour long discourse with these words- "The faster growing sector for the last fifteen years is not IT, not software. It is inequality." Talking about the food crisis, he presented shocking and hard hitting statistics regarding the rampant corruption prevalent in India which stunned the audience into an uncomfortable silence- how public money allocated for various rural development programs (on paper) is being transferred to

the bank accounts of the rich and influential - one of the devastating consequences of our highly flawed economic policies. It is no coincidence that these so called 'economic reforms' have led to the increase of two vastly different statistics simultaneously: the numbers of Indian billionaires in the Forbes Rich List and the number of suicides among farmers, which, for the record, is now in excess of 2,50,000 - the largest recorded figure of suicides in human history.

He expanded on the steeply growing difference between the super rich and those who can hardly manage a meal day and put forward some highly disturbing facts about India's agricultural sector. On a global scale, the figures are thus: The child malnutrition rate is higher in India than in most of the sub Saharan countries in Africa. In the Human Development Index, small countries like Cuba, Vietnam having nine percent GDP are ranked 80 positions ahead of India. 836 million Indians live on less than Rs. 20 a day. In several villages, a child's only meal is the mid day meal that is given in the school and so mothers don't want the schools to shut down for summer holidays. When a famine strikes, women and the elderly are immediately marginalised- the penalty for being an "unproductive" member of a household.

The biggest paradox of India today, said Sainath,

EML by Atul Kulkarni

The EML by versatile actor Atul Kulkarni was quite a delight. After a huge round of applause following his rather imperial entry, Atul Kulkarni shared with the audience a great deal of his experiences, ideas and sentiments.

He began by explaining his struggles with the 12th standard syllabus; being a college dropout, he found it staggeringly ironic to be invited to IIT to deliver a lecture. He said he was very enthusiastic about films as a student. A number of years of serious theatre ignited his passion for theatre. The part time activity was insufficient to quench his thirst. He decided to take up acting professionally, positing that it demands extravagant professionalism. "While you are acting, you are your own favorite star," he said proudly.

He expressed his antipathy towards the current education system in India, saying that education is more of knowing what is right and wrong

is the fact that every year tens of millions of affluent people go to lavish gyms to lose weight and the same time, tens of millions of the poverty-stricken try desperately not to lose any more weight. Eventually, this sort of inequality cannot be sustained- it may not result in a positive civilian struggle but rather, come out in forms of extremism and fundamentalism that will worsen with every passing day.

The award winning journalist, who studied history in his undergraduate days in Delhi, ended with a thought-provoking story. One of the major fires in history broke out in Rome during King Nero's reign. Agitated subjects blamed Nero and to deflate these accusations and pacify them, the latter arranged a lavish dinner. Given how this was ages before Edison, there was no provision for light for such a large gathering. The solution? Burning prisoners at stake throughout the event to produce light. Said Sainath, "I always wanted to know who Nero's guests were, those who attended that dinner...What kind of mindset did it require for them to let such a ghastly thing happen? After five years of studying the agrarian crisis, I found my answer. And today I think you know the answer too."

Food for thought anyone?

rather than just plain knowledge about the world. He emphasized on changing the current system of education to something which would actually provoke people to think and act rationally.

His views on the relationship between a man and a woman were not really accorded. He reckoned that a person must not suppress his natural instincts just because the society impresses certain norms on him. He divulged to the audience his belief that polygamy is not something that has to be considered filthy. In fact, he said that marriage was and is an exceedingly artificial concept, created for pure economic reasons. He regarded open marriage to be more innate a relationship.

His lecture received an incredible response. His maverick personality, subtle sense of humor and practicality was highly appreciated by the audience.

LitSoc in January

Queen Of Sheeba

The new semester got off to a great start with the Lit-Soc Scavenger Hunt (or Queen Of Sheeba) on the 12th of January. The competition had enthusiastic freshies from the various hostels attempting to beg, borrow or steal their way into successfully scavenging for a list of very arbitrary and often arcane items in an attempt to bag the first 100 Lit-Soc points of the new year.

Students were on call across the length and breadth of the city - right from Express Avenue to Velachery - scurrying around searching for that elusive sundial, an Aeroplane safety card, limited edition South Park merchandise or ice hockey puck. There was even an item which had to be fabricated! Described as the world's most useless article, it simply switches off the knob which has just been activated.

A rather helpful link to the same was provided -

<http://static.funnyjunk.com/gifs/906.gif>

Apart from the usual suspects- foreign currency or old Shaastra posters or mess cards- obtaining most of the fifty odd articles seemed a pleasant challenge. A random sampling of the other items that had to be obtained included a bill for purchase of petrol worth less than Rs. 15, a tile from the swimming pool, a lollipop (accompanied by a thoughtful P.S. by the organizers- that they were only after the candy), the first edition of T5E's predecessor Filter Copy, a gavel and a spiked dog collar among many others.

The evaluation took nearly two hours with late additions to various hostels only livening up the atmosphere. At what was literally the end of the day, Mandak beat out everyone else, with Saras, Alak and Ganga taking the subsequent places.

Cluedo

(Where the organizers almost forgot the 'hitch' in Hitchcock)

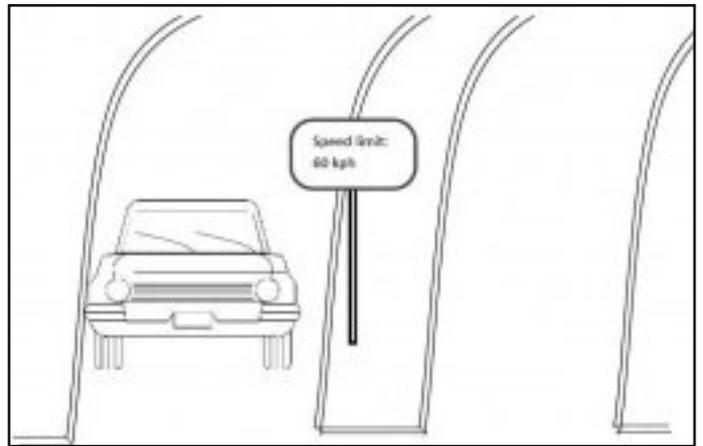
The Lit-Soc Variety Event 'Cluedo' took place at the CLT on the 15th of January. The ever popular event witnessed participants reach their wits end attempting to solve several short whodunits or minute mysteries.

The fare this year was varied. At least a couple of the questions were so straightforward, that the preliminary reading sufficed to reveal the answer. Some techniques have appeared far too often in this event in recent times. For instance, the very sight of a phone number now leads the participant to see what appears on his t9 keypad when he types it. At the other end of the spectrum, the open ended question threw out solutions so convoluted, it bordered on the ridiculous. The picture question (figure out if the driver in the figure is following traffic regulations), however, was extremely good.

The question papers were unfortunately riddled with multiple typographic errors of every nature and did not make for easy reading. Despite gaping logical loopholes in several questions, however, Cluedo

this year was largely an enjoyable exercise for the gathering. The coords too were game enough to admit that any answer which was supported by sound reasoning would be at least partially rewarded. Vishnu Mohan and Jacob George from Narmad stood first with teams from Jam, Mandak and Saras securing the other places.

Spoiler Alert



The windscreen wipers' orientation tells us that the car is a left-handed drive and is motoring along in accordance with the traffic rules.

Hostel Standings - LitSoc

Rank	Hostel Name	LitSoc Points
1	Saraswathi	263
2	Mandakini	168
3	Sharavati	139
4	Alakananda	102
5	Jamuna	100
6	Tapti	76
7	Pampa	50
8	Ganga	39
9	Godavari	35

Rank	Hostel Name	LitSoc Points
10	Tamiraparani	35
11	Narmada	22
12	Krishna	12
13	Mahanadhi	7
14	Sindhu	6
15	Brahmaputra	5
16	Cauvery	0
17	Sarayu	0

IITM Open Quiz

After a hiatus of around two and a half years, the quiz was held by the IITM Quiz Club on January 16, 2011, at the Students' Activity Centre (SAC) in IIT Madras.

A good round of publicity and outreach meant that the turnout was more than 1000 participants, several of them from far across the country. The prelims started on time in the afternoon to a half-filled SAC. The 40 questions ranged in difficulty from easy, for the school kids who had turned up in good number, to challenging ones, for the seasoned quizzers who made it.

The finals featured the top eight teams from the prelims with one team from the institute. Starting at around four in the evening, several exciting rounds of quizzing ensued. Interspersed in between the usual infinite bounce rounds were buzzer rounds, connect questions and a special differential scoring round in the end. With two teams, Quiz Erat Demonstratum (QED, rather) and No Enthu Da (or NED), tied for the top spot after the last question, the system of 'sudden death' was employed leading to a nail biting finish. NED, deservedly, were crowned the champions of IITM Open Quiz 2011. A surprisingly huge audience supported the teams till the very end of the quiz. Prizes worth over Rs. 1 lakh were up for grabs! The teams that placed first, second and third won

Rs.25,000, Rs.20,000 and Rs.15,000 respectively. All finalists received prizes too as also the best school, college, corporate and family teams, from Prof. Govardhan, the Dean (Students) of IIT Madras.

The questions were, at times, pretty esoteric and the quizmaster was blundering, but the quiz as a whole received positive reviews from the participants and the audience. The quiz was presented by IIT Madras and Lasersoft in association with Fruit Shop, iloveread.in, Percept Printing Solutions and Indian Express.



The best IITM team, Akshay, Aswath and Vivek getting prizes from Prof. Govardhan

Saarang

From 25th to 29th January, Saarang fever raged high in the institute. Compulsively 'bigger and better' than all previous editions, Saarang 2011 really did prove itself to be the place to "BE". We'll spare you the play-by-play as you can always visit www.saarang.org for the same (or bum the totally unbiased Saarang'11 Newsletter off LAN) and go straight to the heart of the matter- What made this Saarang different from every other Saarang?

Some would say it was the epic Sponsorship (the biggest of any year yet), others would say it was the footfall and yet others would applaud the newer events. We believe, however, that the numbers tell only half the story- that it was the quality of those figures that made Saarang '11 so legen-waitforit-dary!

To illustrate- it wasn't so much the footfall at an all time high as it was that patronage had visibly diversified- we literally had a greater proportion of participants from "all over the country" this time around. This alone gave a different feel to the fest.

All the major events progressed smoothly with the usual pomp and show. The light music events like Tarang at CLT and the western music events like Decibels, Powerchords and Acoustyx next to SAC witnessed some of the best bands in the country battling it out for the big time as well as a very decent turnout with students foot tapping and head banging to the performing teams throughout. Quiz-mania was back as well with a new addition- the Buzzer quiz. The final rounds of SpEnt and Lone-wolf (widely acknowledged to be the pinnacle of a student's quizzing career), in particular, went on till seven in the morning from about midnight the previous night, with crackling, nail-biting finishes. The dance events found quality participation from various colleges around Chennai and a new initiative in the form of the Classical Arts Utsav succeeded in some measure in reviving the state of Classical Dance at Saarang. The new Hip Hop battle called \$street\$ was well received too.

The falling popularity of Speaking Events – a trend witnessed during LitSoc and carried over to Saarang- became increasingly evident with mostly half-filled auditoriums being the norm at Elocution, Extempore and even IITM's signature JAM; it is



of great concern that not even bawdy sexist jokes seem to be drawing the crowds anymore. Very little remains to be said of Debate either- to say that it was conspicuous only through its absence would be literary pomposity; few seem to have noticed that it was not on the event listings this year- attempts by DebSoc to revive the state of debating culture in insti post-Saarang has been met with zero enthusiasm.

The only events to enthuse the literary types seem to have been Creative Writing (the Online version just got bigger, with judges like Anjum Hasan and Anita Nair) and the Saarang MUN. Organized in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) for India and Bhutan with the theme 'Youth and Peacekeeping', the maiden edition of this 150-international-delegates-and-4-parallel-committees strong Spotlight event turned out to be a roaring success with several veteran MUNers proclaiming that it was one of the best they had attended, which left the sponsors happy and the organizers pleasantly surprised.

The version 2.0 of last year's CSR initiative, Saarang Impact really took it to the next level with diverse objectives ranging from cleaning Chennai's beaches (along with ROB- Reclaim Our Beaches) to the 'Make a Wish' make the dreams of children at orphanages come true to collaborating with NGOs like Bhoomi to help underprivileged kids. The activities were much lauded by the participating community.

Showcasing 'God's own country' this time, the Saarang Village (named 'Kerala Gramam') near OAT played witness to many traditions and practices from our neighbouring state. Panchavadyam, the display of Kalarippayattu, the Chakyarkoothu art form, the Thiruvathira dance form performed by institute students and the serving of authentic Wayanad cuisine throughout the day all made it a much loved initiative.

WTGW, Crossie and Scrabble happened with the usual intense competition while the Fine Arts events, Dreams on Canvas culminated in breathtaking displays at IC&SR. The Workshops were back with a bang- this time, featuring a Magic Tricks workshop, Caricature, Origami, Calligraphy, RJ-ing, Journalism and more. They attracted small groups of dedicated participants from various parts of the country and left them asking for more, as did the Online Quiz, KryptX and Photography, with the latter receiving epic Facebook hits.

The various lectures and demonstrations were as star-studded and exciting as ever, starting with pre-Saarang lectures from Shashi Tharoor and Naagesh Kukunoor which witnessed overcrowded auditoriums. The ones during Saarang by Malavika Sarukkai, Bombay Jayashree, Dhananjayan, Vishaka Hari,

Alarmel Valli, PC Sreeram, Shriya Saran, Shaji Karun, Hari Menon and others all found eager audiences competing for a place in the auditorium.

It was of note that the regional rounds of the Indian Sudoku Championship also took place as a part of Saarang. The winners of the same get to participate in the national championship in Mumbai in May and, if they win there, represent India in the world championship in Hungary.

The World Culture Show lived upto its name. In Vivo, the dance group from France, entertained a full SAC with brilliant and very artistic choreography and made excellent use of their sole prop, a wooden frame. Asaf Avidan and the Mojoes, a jazz group from Israel led by a very charismatic frontman, performed a whole medley of unforgettable, soulful and melodic numbers. Havikoro, a hip-hop dance group from the US, after judging the fantastic Streets competition, refrained from doing anything the audience actually wanted to see. Between the terrible acting, even worse life advice (I had two choices - the good one and the ...) and beat-boxing (which was actually quite impressive), they had very little time to b-boy and burn the floor with their moves. Laurent Decol, the mime artist from France, was a show-stopper. The whole of CLT was in raptures with his every gesture. Rapid improvisation and a terrific feel of his viewer's pulse helped make this the most rib-tickling one hour of the fest.

The Pro-Shows this Saarang lived upto the hype. The Classical Night saw a mesmerising performance by the ensemble of Anil Srinivasan, Sikkil Gurucharan, Navin Iyer, BS Purushothaman titled 'Keys and Classics'. Compositions by Mozart, AR Rahman and Tyagaraja were all played. Later on in the night, the



Laurent Decol presenting "Words of Silence"

eclectic Kuchipudi danseur Mallika Sarabhai, best known for spiritedly taking on LK Advani in the Lok Sabha elections, and her troupe stunned with 'India: Then, Now and Forever'. The performance was preceded by a narrative succinctly describing the history of culture in various parts of the country.

On Republic day, Krishnakumar Kunnath (KK) held the audience captive with renditions of his popular songs including 'Zindagi Do Pal Ki', 'Junoon', 'Khuda Jaane' and covers in regional languages. Prior to the show, Udaan, a winner at LM, was called to open for KK. The wait for them to end was endless and the actual concert lagged in places, nevertheless, people left satisfied at a decent show.

A visual treat was in store at the Choreo Night with more than a few colleges putting up breathtaking performances. NIT-T, who won in the Themed round, charmed with the story of the Taj. Dreamteam from Loyola College outdid themselves with some performers sporting Tron like suits. Wild acrobatics and b-boying was appreciated by the raucous audience. The sponsor of the event received far more publicity than expected, with the 'Jeans' that cost only 20 a pair grabbing eyeballs.

The fourth night witnessed the Decibels (judged

by POS) night and Tarang finals where skilled college or semi-professional bands jammed. The Rock Show began with another excruciating Udaan-esque wait through the opening act by Nervewreck, salvaged in part by the psychedelic videos and a decent show by Bicycle Days. From their very first song, Swedish metal band Pain of Salvation exceeded every expectation at the OAT. After belting out hits to shouting metalhead dudes and screaming chicks, they were headed home when fervent pleas for an encore resulted in them getting back on stage- in an auto! In one of the biggest letdowns Saarang has seen in recent times, they were cut short shortly after by a deliberate powercut (for, as per law, it was way past beddy-bye) and had to leave amidst angry chants of 'What the f____!' from an enraged crowd. (Call it irony or poetic justice, for - as Daniel Gildenlöw later told the cutest TFE Ed- after HammerFall's colourful commentary last year, PoS had been specially requested NOT to use the F word onstage and had been kind enough to comply!)

Saarang 2011 may have ended a little anticlimactically- with the pulling of the plug at the Rock Show during Hallelujah ("A song about sex and not religion", clarified Gildenlöw) - but the afterglow of its general fabulosity still remains, the hangover persisting among students of the institute.

Sports

Dean's Trophy

Dean's Trophy Chess was held on the 22nd and 23rd of January in the Sports Complex. Saras, the defending champion, retained the cup after wiping out Sindhu 4-0 in the last round of this Swiss format tournament. Saras defeated all their opponents except Ganga in five rounds. Ganga placed second with a lesser total while Mandak bagged third place. Saras' strong team consisted of a band of talented second year players who dropped only four points to total 16 out of 20.

The competition was strongest in the first board, featuring many rated players. Ganga's strong player, Nishaanth, suffered a shock defeat to Mandak unrated first year Digvijay Bhandari in the penultimate round. Bhandari went on to score 4/5. Sharavati's first board player Sohini also gave a commendable performance. Pratik Shriwas, former institute captain, dominated the second board with a perfect score.

Schroeter

Cricket (First Round)

The first stage of knockout matches, ending on the fifth of February, was organized by splitting hostels into 8 groups with 2 hostels each. All matches

were played as per the Twenty20 format. One hostel was selected per group. Tapti, Ganga, Jamuna, Cauvery, Godavari and Alak proceeded to the next stage after winning their games in the weekend leading up to Saarang, while Sindhu and Mandak finished their games this weekend and took their places in

one of the two pools. The second stage will be conducted in a league format, with each team playing against the other three teams in their pool.

Basketball Schroeter Report

The first round of Basketball Schroeter concluded by the end of February, when two teams from each of the four pools got through to the next stage.

From pool A, defending champions Pampa, along with Krishna, qualified ahead of Tambi hostel which has been showing an active presence in this year's sporting events thanks to first year participation. Challengers Saras also qualified together with Ganga from group C. Jamuna and Mahanadi from group B, and Mandak and Godav from group D completes the list of hostels entering the quarter-finals, held in early March. The semis and finals will be held after a hiatus in early April.

Volleyball (First Round)

The preliminary stage of the Volleyball Schroeter

was held from 1st to 4th February during the evenings. Godavari eased into the next stage without dropping a single game. Ganga, too emulated this clean sweep. All of the other qualifiers won two out of three games- Alakananda, Pampa and Jamuna were helped on the way by walkover wins against Brahmaputra and Cauvery. Saras, Tapti and Mahanadi too qualified for the second stage.

Football Schroeter: Stage 1

The first stage of Football Schroeter concluded with eight teams entering a league stage after a quick knockout round. The individual matches yielded the following results:

Ganga recieved a bye, being defending champions. The 8 teams that qualified enter two pools in a league stage for the league stage matches that are being staged this month:

Pool A: Godavari, Alaknanda, Tapti, Ganga

Pool B: Jamuna, Mandakini, Tamraparini, Narmada

Football Schroeter Results - (Winning team) - (Losing team)

Alakananda - Brahmaputra (walkover)	Mandakini - Mahanadi (4-0)
Narmada - Krishna (1-1,penalty)	Jamuna - Cauvery (7-1)
Saraswati - Tamraparani (1-1,penalty)	Tapti - Pampa (3-0)
Godavari - Sindhu (3-1)	

Volleyball Schroeter Fixtures - League Stage 2

DAY 1: 15 March			
	Time Slot	Court - A	Court - B
Pool X	5.30 pm	Alak Vs Saras	Jamuna Vs Mahanadi
Pool Y	6.30 pm	Ganga vs Tapti	Godavari Vs Pampa
DAY 2: 17 March			
	Time Slot	Court - A	Court - B
Pool X	5.30 pm	Jamuna Vs Saras	Alak Vs Mahanadi
Pool Y	6.30 pm	Godavari vs Tapti	Ganga Vs Pampa
DAY 3: 18 March			
	Time Slot	Court - A	Court - B
Pool X	5.30 pm	Jamuna Vs Alak	Saras vs Mahanadi
Pool Y	6.30 pm	Ganga Vs Godavari	Pampa Vs Tapti

Tech Soc Main Quiz

The evening of the 24th of February saw PhLT fill up like the food court at 12.00 in the afternoon. Brimming with enthusiastic students, it was the venue of the TechSoc Main Quiz. Usually, the Quiz is a victim of delays and a general lack of organization but this year the quiz, which was to be held at 7.30, started just 10 minutes late. The event in general was divided into two sessions - a preliminary qualification, which was open for all, and the final round, where the top six teams of the former round competed.

The qualification round was in written format. Teams of up to 3 members were allowed. The teams had to answer questions projected on to the most accessible white wall in the hall, which has sort of become an IIT stereotype. Though the students were aplenty, leaking out from the over-stressed benches, the questions were limited to 20. Whilst internet browsers and websites grabbed their quota in the themes for the questions, sci-fi classics Star Wars and Star Trek, wacky innovations and pseudo anti-pop culture channels filled in the rest.

A half an hour break gave way to the final round that lasted for over an hour. Even a person affiliating himself with quizzing circles wouldn't find it hard to admit that the questions were tough, and generally well set. The questions were not confined to any re-

petitiveness, nor was their placement revealing of any pattern. One interesting quiz-setting attempt was the theme Transformers coded into a panorama of images giving out character names. The round in general saw the room fill out with the overflowing adrenaline of a certain long-haired contestant from Tamraparani, whose team outwitted a group of sophomores by a whisker to claim the title.

Despite certain troubles like the display being too small for an average crowd and the informal atmosphere plaguing the event, the quiz was better organized than usual. All in all, it was an evening well spent and a night absorbed in wiki-ing all the topics laid bare.

The results of the Quiz are :

1st place : Srivats V (Tambi), Anubhav B (Godav), Swaroop R (Tapti)(Freshie)

2nd place : Jayadev B (Mandak)(Freshie), Vivek P (Saras), Akshay R (Alak)

3rd place : Sanjay BJ (Jam), Vinay K Sridhar (Alak), Varun Joshi (Alak)

4th place : Naveen Karthik (Godav), Sriram Srikant(Godav), Vinay Hegde (Pampa)

5th place : Achuth V (Narmad), Dilshad R (Narmad), Vinit Unni (Narmad)

6th place : Vinayak Sapru (Pampa), Kaushik Reddy (Pampa), Raghav Iyengar (Jam)

Tech-Soc Points

Narmad	Tambi	Alak	Ganga	Saras	Cauvery	Godav	Jam	Mandak	Tapti	Pamba	Sharav	Sindu
108	104	58.33	52.33	46.33	21	21	15	12	6	2	2	1

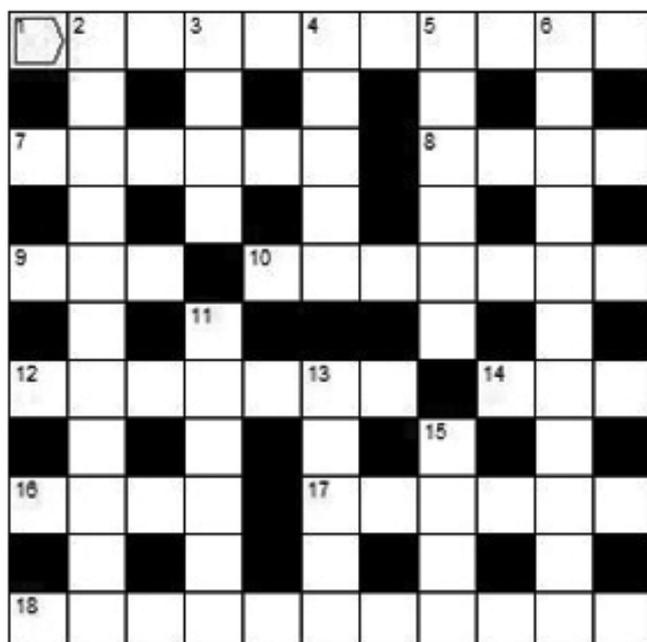
Dalal Street @ IIT Madras

The Finance Club at DoMS, also known as FinAd-dicts, organized a stocktrading workshop for the institute which was followed by a virtual stock trading competition. The workshop was held on 16th February at CLT. A jam-packed CLT was taught the basics of stock trading by Dr. Krishna Prasana P (from DoMS). The attendance was a very strong indication of the students' interest in finance.

This workshop was followed by a weeklong virtual stock trading competition from 18th to 25th February with more than 200 teams competing against each other. The winners were those with the highest net worth at the end of the contest, namely Harjot Singh Dhillon in the MBA Category and Surya

Teja Katha & Krishna Praturi in the non-MBA category. Prizes were distributed to the winners by MR. Harsh Duggar, Vice President, HDFC Bank.





For the solution, fundaes on crosswords and other word games, visit <http://iitmwordgamesclub.blogspot.com> and also join the IITM Word Games Club Google Group ([wgc-iitm](#)) for updates on meetings and more.

Across

- 1)Special beat to protect cycle component(11)
 7)One big rune dismantled in Asian country(6)
 8)Smack if surrounded by boyfriend(4)
 9)Ignite without ignition in vessel(3)
 10)Holy chant holding mother in South East Asia(7)
 12)Desi heart needed by girl leading to confusion(7)
 14)Observed the cutting tool(3)
 16)Manouvere without head,we hear, at some level (4)
 17)A Swift singer heard to adjust(6)
 18)Protect Lady awfully from flier(11)

Down

- 2)He likes putting faces on fabric(11)
 3)Relative flaunting without a shot(4)
 4)You laugh around one king from a short poem(5)
 5)At a pub, chew and chew to feel cheerful(6)
 6)Again for carpet to not begin gory tendency to change(11)
 11)His job rests on his shoulders(6)
 13)Silenced alien up in sand(5)
 15)Round, America out of sport(4)

The Chemystery of it all

Chemistry, particularly the organic part, is not everyone's cup of tea. So while many struggle with IUPAC names at some point or the other, only very few go boldly where even fewer others have gone before and end up doing research at Chem E, IIT Madras. Sarvani, who researches in the field of ionic liquids to enhance esterification, is one of the bold ones.

To the layman (possibly you), esterification is the general name for a chemical reaction in which two reactants (typically an alcohol and an acid) form an ester as the reaction product. Esters are common in organic chemistry and are typically characterized by a pleasant, fruity odor. This leads to their extensive use in the fragrance and flavor industry.

Diethyl sulphate (C₂H₅)₂SO₄, is a colourless oil with a peppermint odor used as an intermediate in organic synthesis. It is used to make vinyl esters, prepare detergents and refine fats. Smaller

quantities are used in household products, cosmetics, dyes, sanitizers, fragrances, surfactants, agricultural chemicals, pharmaceuticals and so on.

An ionic liquid is a salt in the liquid state. It acts as a catalyst for the enhancement of esterification. Sarvani works with a batch reactor and analyzes samples for the concentration of ethanol converted to ethyl hydrogen sulfate. She studies the effect of temperature of the reaction mixture, concentration of ionic liquid used and the mole ratio of reactants and concentration on conversion to know the kinetics of the reaction. The kinetic data is analyzed using both integral method and differential method for deriving a suitable rate law which will be used to propose a mechanism to explain the reaction.

When not in the lab 'esterifying', Sarvani moonlights as the Assistant Warden for Sarayu.

Credits:

Editors: * Aditya "DAS" Kothari * Sharanya "Schrodinger" Haridas * Vinay "Slicer" Sridhar

Correspondents

Literary-Social: Milind Rao, Vinay "Hedge" Hegde

Technical: Nihit Desai, Shakti Shaligram

Sports: Midhun "Pumpkin" Unnikrishnan

Other Campus Events: Sohini Sarkar, Manasa Renduchintala, Mounika Sonikar

Outside the Campus and Research Affairs: Ranjini Balan

Design: Umang "Goti" Gupta
Vishal Singh

Reporter: Pradyot Bharadwaj

We thank the Dean Students, Prof. M. Govardhan, the Secretary to the Dean Students, Mr. Rajendran and the SAC Speaker, Nikhil Jogimahanti, for their support.

Representatives from Executive Wing

Students' General Secretary	SGS
Academic Affairs Secretary	AAS
Co-curricular Affairs Secretary	CCAS
Research Affairs Secretary	RAS
Hostel Affairs Secretary	HAS
Sports Secretary	SS
Cultural Affairs Secretaries (Lit)	CASL
Cultural Affairs Secretaries (Art)	CASA
Speaker, Student Affairs Council	SSAC

Student Representation in Administrative Boards

Board	Student Representatives	
Board of Students (BoS)	Executive Wing	All student issues
Board of Academic Courses (BoA)	AAS,SGS	Academic Curriculum, courses/issues of B.Tech/ Dual,M.Tech,MA, MBA & MSc
Board of Academic Research (BAR)	RAS,SGS	MS,Phd Curriculum/issues
Board of Placements (BoP)	AAS,RAS	Placements for all the students
Senate	SGS,AAS,RAS	Ultimate/highest forum where all the issues of the institute are addressed.

S.No	Organisation/Committee	Representative from Executive Wing	
1	Placement Team	AAS	Head
2	Academic Affairs Council	AAS	Head
3	Library Committee	AAS,RAS	Student Representative
4	Arts Council*	CAS(A)	Head
5	Literary Council*	CAS(L)	Head
6	Saarang	CASs	Head
7	Cultural Clubs	CASs	Head
8	Shaastra	CCAS	Head
9	Center For Innovation (CFI)	CCAS	Supervisor
10	C-TIDES	CCAS	Supervisor
11	Co-Curricular Affairs Council*	CCAS	Head
12	CSU Committee	HAS	Student Representative
13	Committee for Maintenance of Hostels	HAS	Student Representative
14	Mess Monitoring Committee (MMC)	HAS	Student Representative
15	Monitoring Committee for Student Facilities (MCSF)	HAS,SGS	Student Representative
16	Research Affairs Council	RAS	Head
17	House Allotment Committee (HAC)	RAS	Student Representative
18	Extra-Mural Lectures (EML) Team	SGS	Head
19	Sustainability Network (S-Net)	SGS	Supervisor
20	Guidance and Counseling Unit (GCU)	SGS	Supervisor
21	Vivekananda Study Circle (VSC)	SGS	Supervisor
22	iVil	SGS	Supervisor
23	Alumni Affairs Council	SGS	Head
24	General Secretary's Council*	SGS	Head
25	Media Club	SGS,CCAS,CASs	Head
26	Sports Organising Committee (SOC)	SS	Head
27	Sports Clubs	SS	Head
28	Student Affairs Council (SAC)	SSAC	Head
29	The Fourth Estate (TFE)	SSAC	Supervisor
30	The Fifth Estate(T5E)	SSAC	Supervisor
31	Reflections	SSAC, CASL	Supervisor

* This name is not being used but the teams are are practically existent and working

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