



Office of International and Alumni Affairs

Yearbook 2023



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Prof. Sasidhar Gumma

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Office of International & Alumni Affairs

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You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm
not the only one. I hope someday
you'll join us. And the world will live
as one.

- John Lenon

DEAN'S MESSAGE

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, it brings me joy to present the yearbook that encapsulates our transformative journey over the past year. IIT Tirupati has embraced academic diversity and collaborative research by welcoming numerous international faculty. Strategic visits to Australia, the US, and Canada have resulted in forging partnerships with prestigious universities, enabling joint programs, faculty exchanges, and collaborative research.

This year, several faculty members from our partner institutes visited for short-term research projects, while four of our students secured international internships abroad. We are excited about fostering more student exchanges like these in the coming years.

Establishing an alumni association and hosting the inaugural reunion for local alumni have strengthened our connections and professional networks. These efforts have further solidified IIT Tirupati's position as a global hub for academic excellence, fostering collaboration, innovation, and lifelong ties among students, scholars, and alumni.

Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for the opportunities on the horizon. We are currently finalizing an MoU with Clemson University, planning a joint course with Mahidol University and BUET, and strategizing partnerships with the Universities of Melbourne and Swinburne. Additionally, our Director is attending the PAN IIT conference in the USA, aimed at engaging with our overseas alumni.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our collaborators, faculty, students, and our Institute team who made this journey possible. I look forward to an exciting year ahead. I extend my warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year filled with success, fulfillment, and continued growth.

Sasidhar Gumma

Dean - International and Alumni Affairs



We need to reaffirm our dedication to shaping a future where knowledge knows no boundaries and where our alumni continue to be torchbearers of positive change in every corner of the world.

YEAR AT A GLANCE



IN NUMBERS

Visitors to IIT Tirupati	08	MoUs	04
International Scholar visit	01	International Students on Exchange	02
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Cultural Engagement	01		
Workshops / Symposiums	04		
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Highlights

Stanford University
Students and Faculty visit

First Reunion and Formation of **Alumni Association**

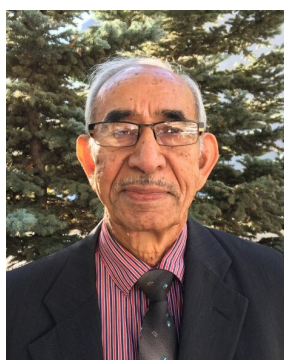
INTERNATIONAL GUESTS

Jan - Prof. Julian Talbot, Sorbonne University, Paris, visited IIT Tirupati to work with Dr. Anki Reddy, on granular physics. He taught a short-term course on **Random Processes with Applications** and presented a seminar on **“Statistics and Optimisation of Random Pan Stacking**.



Feb - Dr. John Kershaw, University of New Brunswick, Canada, had an interactive session with the faculty and students in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics on **forest inventory, growth, and yield, as well as LiDAR analyses**.

Feb - Prof. Braj Sinha, University of Saskatchewan visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Chemical Engineering, Mathematics and Humanities department on the broad areas of **food security, water resource management and energy sustainability**.

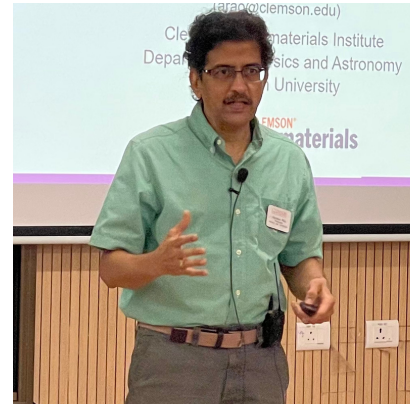


Apr - Dr. Stephane Mechoulam, Associate Professor, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University visited IIT Tirupati and interacted faculty and research scholars of HSS and presented a lecture on the topic on **Revisiting the Effects of Abortion Legalization on the Incidence of Sexually-Transmitted Diseases**.





Aug - Dr. Branesh Pillai, Mahidol University, visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering department and presented a lecture on the topic on **BART LAB Robotic Research: Toward Medical Robotics Industry and A New Era for Medical Treatment.**



Oct - Prof. Apparao M Rao, Clemson University visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering department and presented a lecture on the topic **Potassium-ion Batteries for a Sustainable Future.**

Jul - Prof. Rajendra Singh, Clemson University visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical Engineering department and presented a lecture on the topic **Nearly Free Green Sustainable Electrical Power for All.**





2022's Highlight - A group of Delegates from Dalhousie University visited IIT Tirupati



Dec: **Ms. Divya Rathore**, PhD Scholar from Prof. Jeff Dahn's lab at Dalhousie University visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with the faculty and research scholars of Chemical Engineering department and visited faculty from IISER Tirupati and industry experts at Amara Raja facility. She also presented a lecture on the topic *Moderate Nickel, Cobalt-free Layered Oxides as Alternative High Energy Density Cathodes for Li-ion Batteries* on 27th December, 2023.



Nov: **Ms. Aye Aye That**, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Northern Shan State, Myanmar spent 5 months (November 2022 - April 2023) at IIT Tirupati under the **ISRF programme with Dr. Mamilla Ravishankar**, Department of Mechanical Engineering.



Feb: **Mr. Jonathan Tot**, PhD scholar, Dalhousie University, spent 3 months (February – April 2023) at IIT Tirupati under the **MITACS fellowship** to work with **Prof. P.C. Deshmukh**, Department of Physics.



INTERNATIONAL VISITS BY OIA TEAM

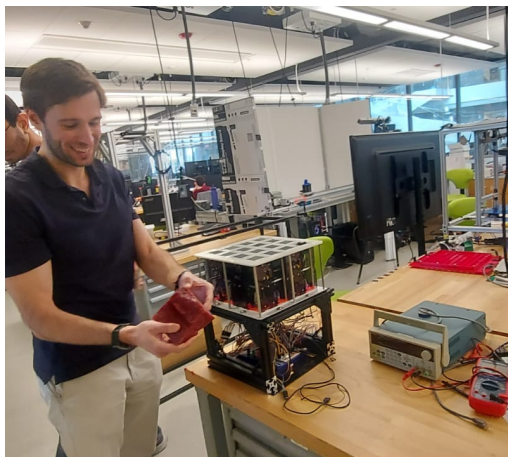


Dalhousie University Visit (May/June 2023):

Prof. K.N. Satyanarayana and the Dean of International and Alumni Affairs, Prof. Sasidhar Gumma, visited Dalhousie University (Dal) in June. IIT Tirupati has a longstanding engagement with Dal, and the purpose of the visit was to discuss strategies to further propel these initiatives. During the visit, the team had discussions with Drs. Alice Aiken, Kevin Plucknett, Macy Toe, and Jo Francois to explore potential areas for collaborative research, focusing on small-scale energy storage, next-generation materials, clean hydrogen projects, batteries, and healthcare technologies. Both institutions acknowledged existing partnership initiatives, particularly in precision agriculture, energy, and water science and technology. The team also engaged with the Smart Precision Agriculture group to discuss potential opportunities in agricultural supply chain management, organic agriculture, and met with the Faculty of Computer Science. The visit included a tour of the battery lab and COVE, a high-tech innovation hub for global marine technology sectors.



McGill University Visit (May 2023): The Director, Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana, and the Dean participated as special guests at the installation ceremony of Professor Deep Saini as the Vice-Chancellor of McGill University. Prof. Saini was previously associated with Dalhousie University and had visited IITT last year. The team also held discussions with faculty members to explore collaborative research opportunities in aeronautical studies, advanced materials, power systems, precision agriculture, and other interdisciplinary areas. The focus was on workshops, funding opportunities, and fostering interdisciplinary partnerships to drive research and innovation.



Australia Visit (Nov 2023): Prof. Gumma and P. Venkataraman, Advisor International Relations, participated in the Melbourne-India Postgraduate Academy Conference (MIPAC-23) and an academic workshop between November 15th and 17th, 2023, at the University of Melbourne. The purpose was to strengthen the academic partnership between the institutions, explore new teaching partnerships, the potential for a joint graduate program, and integration into UniMelb's research ecosystem. The three-day conference featured presentations by the current MIPA cohort, lab tours, research talks, and discussions. Additionally, the OIA team visited the University of Swinburne, RMIT, and Monash University.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY



Mr. V Sunil (MS Scholar), working with Dr. Uday Kumar and Dr. Anki Reddy in the Chemical Engineering department was selected for the prestigious Khorana Program for scholars internship 2023. He worked with **Prof Stancia's** research group at **Purdue University** on *Detecting gastric cancer-specific VOCs in patients breathe by organic-inorganic hybrid nanosensors* between May-August this year.

In his own words, *"Khorana program is an impressive opportunity for anyone who aspires to pursue a research career. I still remember being awestruck seeing the infrastructure and high-end facilities which are available at Drug discovery park and Bricks center for nanotechnology. My professor was so cool and assigned me to work on a Center for Produce Safety funded project.*

Apart from research, I was able to interact with diverse people getting glimpse of their life in USA and played cricket and basketball with them. There is so much to write about, but I am happy to conclude here by expressing that my visit to Purdue was an enriching experience that is filled with lot of learnings and memories".



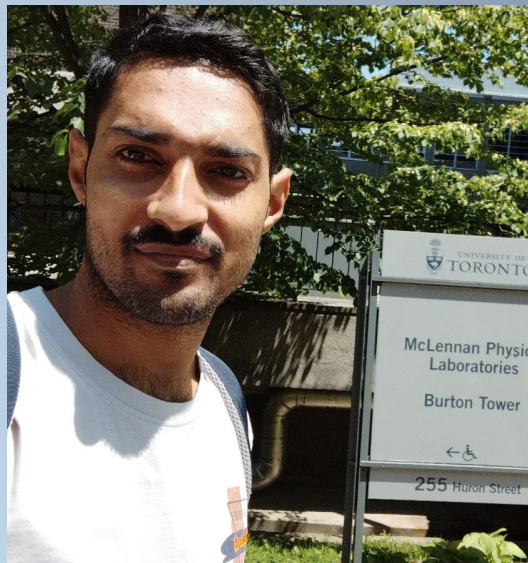
Mr. M. Sreenivasulu (PhD Scholar), working with Dr. N.N. Murthy in the Electrical Engineering department was selected for the prestigious Mitacs Globalink research award 2023.

He worked with **Dr. Al-Mallahi** research group at **Dalhousie University** on *Soil Sensors* between July - September this year.



Mr. Sonu Jana (Department of Physics, Ph.D. scholars) was awarded the prestigious Mitacs Globalink Research Award for a 3 month internship program at the **University of Toronto, Canada** with **Prof. Amar Vutha's** research group. He is funded by the IITT TIH Chanakya Doctoral Fellowship and both of them are involved in *portable atomic clock development* at IIT TIRUPATI.





Mr. Vikrant Yadav was also awarded the prestigious Mitacs Globalink Research Award for a 3 month internship program at the **University of Toronto, Canada** with **Prof. Amar Vutha's** research group.

In his own words, I spent my internship at Dr Amar Vutha's lab (Associate Professor, Physics Dept) at the University of Toronto. He is building a cryogenic ion-trapped optical atomic clock. The main components of an atomic clock are an Ion trap, ultra-stable resonator cavity, lasers, vacuum systems, etc. I was given the task of designing and building compact, low-power optical lasers known as Extended Cavity Diode Lasers (ECDLs) for the project. It was an enhanced learning experience for me. Being at one of the best labs in the world, the environment groomed me as a researcher, experimenter and self-motivated person. This opportunity has helped me in shaping my research work here at IITT as we are also working on building an optical atomic clock.



INTERNATIONALISATION EVENTS



Prof. Sasidhar Gumma, Dean- International and Alumni Affairs and Dr. P. Venkataraman, Advisor International Affairs participated in the **International Relations (IR) conclave** held at IIT Roorkee on November 7th and 8th, 2023 to discuss strategies for internationalization at IITs.

Mrs. Aparna attended the DAAD iHED workshop which focused on **'Internationalisation at Indian higher education institutions - Structures and Services'** at the University of Hyderabad on 02nd and 03rd November 2023. The event also hosted DAAD alumni enabling a chance to network and engage in collaborative opportunities.



Representatives from various German Universities visited IIT Tirupati and interacted with Prof. K.N Satyanarayana to initiate partnerships and collaborative activities.

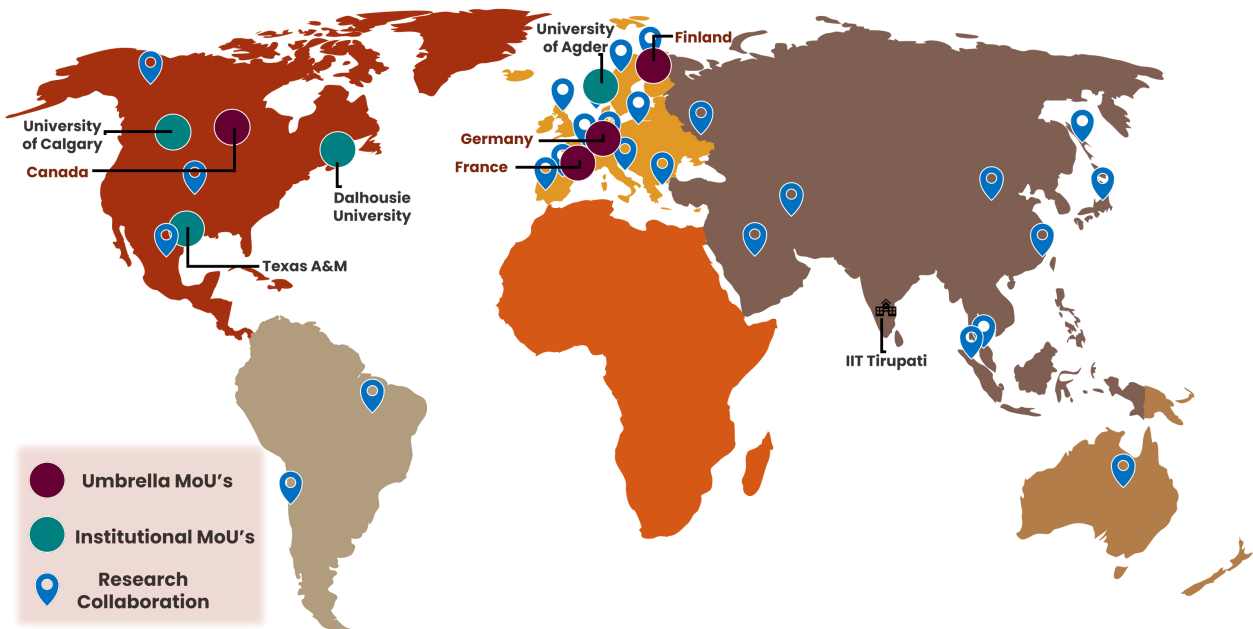


GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati (IIT-Tirupati) has established impactful international relations through a series of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with prestigious institutions worldwide. These collaborations stand as pillars for academic exchange, research synergy, and cultural amalgamation.

Notable partnerships include Texas A&M University, Dalhousie University, University of Calgary, University of Agder, and various consortiums like SICI, DAAD, a consortium of Finnish Universities, and the IIT-FGL MoU with 20 French Engineering Schools.

These agreements are mainly aimed at facilitating joint research endeavors, faculty interactions, student exchanges, and practices, between IIT-Tirupati and its partnering institutions.



PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

- Texas A&M University, USA
- Dalhousie University, Canada
- University of Calgary, Canada
- University of Agder, Norway
- SICI – Shastri Indo Canadian Institute
- DAAD (Germany) and 23 IITs
- Consortium of 10 Finnish Universities and 23 IITs
- IIT-FGL: Collaboration with 20 French Engineering Schools of FGL



CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT



On the 9th of September 2023, Stanford University's students and faculty participated in the "Engineering and Science in India" program at IIT Tirupati. This meticulously planned day aimed to blend technology and culture, offering an immersive experience.

The day commenced with a tranquil nature walk at Divya Ramam Park, engaging discussions on the nexus between nature and technology. A captivating Kalamkari workshop led by renowned artist Niranjan Jonnalagadda and a lively Bollywood dance session infused cultural depth and entertainment into the program.

Following a delightful lunch, the day transitioned into technical discussions through a poster

presentation where IIT students showcased their research, igniting intellectual discourse and potential collaborations.

The afternoon campus walk, guided by IIT students, showcased the institution's advanced facilities, fostering knowledge exchange and deeper insights into academic excellence at IIT Tirupati.

As the day progressed, an evening cultural session unfolded, featuring a mesmerizing Kalaripayattu performance organized by the SPIC MACAY Heritage club. This traditional Indian martial art form showcased India's rich cultural heritage, leaving the audience captivated. The day concluded with a delectable South Indian dinner, offering a taste of the diverse flavors of South India.

Lastly, the Stanford students were gifted a collection of books by Indian authors, covering a spectrum of topics, providing valuable insights into India's intellectual diversity. The visit exemplified the harmonious blend of science and culture, showcasing the beauty of cross-cultural exchange and the diversity inherent in education. It was a day where technology intersected with tradition, fostering understanding and collaboration among future leaders in both fields. Anticipating more such enriching exchanges in the future.



“ ..the spontaneous (bollywood) dance instruction was so much fun! ”



“ Thank you for hosting us at IIT Tirupati. I can't speak highly enough of you and your team on the coordination and thoughtful activities... every activity planned for us was truly amazing! ”

Dr. Mykel Kochenderfer & Mr. Dylan Asmer
Stanford University

FIRST ALUMNI REUNION



October 14, 2023, was a special day in the history of IIT Tirupati as it marked the first reunion of our graduates. The day began with a symbolic tree planting ceremony, where graduates from various batches came together to commemorate their connection to the institution. After this meaningful start, alumni revisited the departments and laboratories where they had once pursued their academic dreams, evoking a sense of nostalgia and growth.

The event continued with a warm welcome talk by our Director, Prof. KN Satyanarayana, who shared updates about the institution's tremendous progress. Later, an elaborate session surrounding the alumni bylaws and the nomination of executive members for the IIT Tirupati Alumni Association was held. This event showcased a commitment to the enduring relationship between alumni and their alma mater.

After a short break, our current batch of students delighted the alumni with cultural activities, reigniting cherished memories. The day concluded with a delightful dinner, and each attending alumnus received a small plant as a token of appreciation, symbolizing the enduring roots of their connection with IIT Tirupati. It was a day of rekindling friendships, celebrating achievements, and strengthening the bonds that make IIT Tirupati a thriving community of excellence.





There is nothing
more satisfactory
than visiting your
Alma Matter



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The formation of an alumni association at IIT Tirupati signifies the establishment of a robust network bridging the past, present, and future of the institution. It's a testament to the enduring bond and shared experiences among graduates, fostering connections that transcend time and distance.

This association serves as a platform for alumni to contribute their expertise, support current students, and collaborate on initiatives that

enhance the reputation and legacy of IIT Tirupati. Through this collective effort, it cements the spirit of camaraderie, knowledge exchange, and a commitment to the continual growth and success of the alma mater.

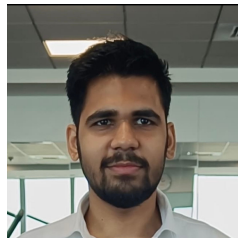
An alumni association is vital for an institute like IIT Tirupati as it serves as a bridge between the institution and its graduates. It plays a crucial role in nurturing a lifelong relationship between former students and their alma mater.

This connection facilitates the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and resources, offering valuable mentorship opportunities for current students and aiding in their career development.

Additionally, it supports the institute's growth by harnessing the collective wisdom and networks of its alumni, enabling collaborations, fundraising, and the establishment of industry connections, all of which contribute significantly to the institute's advancement and reputation.



Prof. Sasidhar Gumma
President



Mr. Vikas Kumar
Vice - President



Ms. K. S. Shalini
Secretary



Manindra Narayan Singh
Jt. Secretary



Mr. Vamsi Krishna
Executive Member



Rahul Kajla
Executive Member



Vasapalli Kondababu
Treasurer

OUR TEAM

**Dean - International and
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Mechanical Engineering



Dr. Vijayakumar G
Advisor, Alumni Affairs
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