CELEBRATING CENTENARY



# **Alma Communiqué** Alumni Newsletter (Mar. 2021)





MoU between IIT (BHU), Varanasi and IIT (BHU) Foundation, USA







## Institute Updates

1. On 1st January 2021, IIT (BHU), Varanasi, and IIT (BHU) Foundation, USA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to raise funds for the Institute. The Foundation's Board of Directors will pursue prudent investment of assets, oversee the distribution of funds to IIT (BHU), and monitor their use for various projects and initiatives. The Foundation and the Institute shall work together to expand resources and ensure progress within all the domains by making sure that the donated assets are used to the best of their abilities.

2. Aiming to provide design expertise to the manufacturing MSME sector under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Up-gradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS), an MoU was signed between IIT (BHU), Varanasi and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The MoU aims to bring the Indian manufacturing and design fraternity on a common platform to provide expert advice and cost-effective solutions on real time design problems, resulting in product development and continuous improvement of existing products.

3. Researchers at the School of Biochemical Engineering of IIT (BHU) have synthesized an eco-friendly 'adsorbent' that can remove toxic heavy metal ions from wastewater. Synthesized by Assistant Professor Dr. Vishal Mishra and PhD scholars Veer Singh and Jyoti Singh, the product has the potential to help clean Ganga and is a cost-effective and eco-friendly method to curb several water-borne diseases.

4. In a path-breaking accomplishment, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Upadhyay of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology and his team have developed a membrane reformer prototype for producing ultra-pure hydrogen from methanol. The prototype isolated 99.999% pure hydrogen and is the first such prototype in India with no such commercial units worldwide. Funded by the Union Government's Science and Technology Department, the research can be used to charge electric vehicles.



### Connect back with your Alma Mater

Alumni can now connect with their fellow batchmates by registering themselves on the official alumni portal created by the office of Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs). It will keep the alumni updated about the various developments in the Institute.

Link to the portal - https://alumni-reg.iitbhu.ac.in/

## Media Coverage





IIT (BHU) generates on-site electricity from hydrogen

## Infrastructure Updates

## Student Activity Center

The Student Activity Center will consist of three (G+2) floors. The ground floor will have a badminton hall (4 courts), 2 squash courts, 1 gym, 2 offices, and 2 locker rooms. The first floor will have 2 taekwondo rings, 2 boxing rings, 1 carrom, 1 chess and 2 locker rooms. The second floor will have 2 TT tables for faculty and 3 for students, along with 1 hall, 1 yoga hall and 2 locker rooms.



Upcoming Student Activity Center

### Morvi - II Hostel

Morvi Hostel-II will have 576 rooms across S+10 floors. The hostel will have dining with 960 (320 x 3) seatings, lifts, 2 large common rooms (134.28 sq. meters) and 10 small common rooms (48.38 sq. meters).



Upcoming Morvi II Hostel

### Guest House



The Guest House Block will consist of G+4 floors with 44 rooms. 8 suites and 2 lifts. It will also have a dining hall, a reception hall, a waiting hall and a visitor's lounge.

Upcoming Guest House Block

## Faculty Apartments

The Faculty Apartments (A & B), will have 2 blocks, each having S+8 floors consisting of 3 BHK flats. The C & D blocks, near Vishwakarma hostel, will have S+10 floors with 3 BHK flats for the faculty of our Institute.



Upcoming Faculty Apartments



## **Research and Development**

The months of January and February saw a steep increase in the total number of research projects run by the Institute. The number of projects submitted in February alone was more than thrice of that in January. The total grants sanctioned for the running projects also witnessed a significant increase. The details of the projects and their grants are as follows:

Month	Projects sanctioned	Projects submitted	Projects running	
Jan.	15	14	198	
Feb.	4	43	213	

Details of the number of projects in the January and February

Month	Total grant sanctioned	Grant asked in submitted projects	Total grant of running projects	
Jan.	Rs. 5,62,47,627.00	Rs. 5,10,35,540.00	Rs. 81,61,99,452.00	
Feb.	Rs. 84,22,170.00	Rs. 14,85,77,230.00	Rs. 87,24,47,079.00	
Details of the grants sanctioned in January and February				

Details of the grants sanctioned in January and February

## Startup Ecosystem

The IIT (BHU)-BHU Design and Innovation Centre (DIC) has been established to aid the students and faculty in materializing their creative ideas into feasible design innovations. The Centre works on the possibilities of innovation in technology, humanities, arts and provides hands-on-experience



with great working projects. The Students and Faculty are provided a Digital Media facility for web design, short films, mobile applications, and other such areas as a part of its innovative works.

Cisco thingQbator is a network of makerspaces that has partnered with the Institute, providing a platform for students to be educated on digital technologies in a practical manner. Their mission is to transform ideas into prototypes, encourage innovation, working provide mentorship and training, and 24/7 access to the makerspace. It will consist of a rotating cohort of 50 students joining the program every six months.



The RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri Business Incubator (R-ABI) builds-up the agricultural infrastructure and promotes agripreneurship and agribusiness by providing financial support and nurturing the incubation ecosystem. The scheme solidifies the

existing agribusinesses as well as the new ones by laying the ground for innovation in agriculture and allied areas. It

aims at aligning the farmers to the market via a sustainable development agenda.

**IDAPT-HUB Foundation** comprises a technology incubation centre that supports ideas and innovations emerging from scientific, technological, and knowledge capital for the generation of products that contribute to both social and economical development. Keeping in mind the needs of the near future, the N-DAPT (National Mission on DAPT) at IIT (BHU) aims at the skill development, nurturing of start-ups and HRD. This endeavor aims to make the process of the generation of innovative engineers much more efficient.

## **Students' Updates**

E-Cell continued with their series, 'Founders' Speak' and organized a session with Mr. Manish Gupta (CSE '91), Founder of Alphonso. RIFU organized a webinar hosted by Mr. Akash Shah. PhD at Colorado State University, and



Mr. Abhilash Dhal, MS at the University of California for students from the School of Material Science and Technology & Biochemical Engineering, respectively. A workshop was organized on the topic 'Market Validation and Circular Economy'. It was hosted by Mr. Shashwat Gangwal, Founder (InfinityBox) and Investment Manager (SAGANA).

Student Counselling Services launched the 66-Day Habit Quest following their 21-Day Habit Challenge. They also conducted Meditation 101: a workshop on meditation and a webinar on the Prevention of Drug Addiction and other addictions.





The Film and Media Council released the winning entry of the freshmen writing contest with the new edition of 'Quest' and started 'Weekly News Digest' to acquaint students with the latest global events. The Council undertook an initiative to know about the effects of the online semester on students

from various colleges. With the theme launch, the Council is gearing up for the FMC Weekend.

The Cultural Council organized a Quilling workshop on 7th February, 2021 by Ms. Pooia Sah (Batch of 2016), an Illustrator and Paper artist. Ms. Nisitha Vallamdasu (Part II, ECE) stood 3rd at the State Level English Essay Competition organized by Shri Ram Chandra Mission in collaboration with the UNIC for India and Bhutan and the



Heartfulness Education Trust. 5 other students also received Honorable Mention. While workshops were organized on standup, adjudication etc., a general guiz was conducted on 6th February, 2021.

The Games and Sports Council concluded the Basic Fitness Challenges in February and conducted interactive sessions with coaches for interested students. The Chess Club, IIT (BHU) was incorporated into the 'All IITs Chess Club'.



Under the Science and Technology Aeromodelling Council, the Club organized an RC plane workshop. The Business Club conducted workshops on analytics, product management, and the basics of case solving. CSI organized a seminar on the 3Ps and brainstorming sessions on sustainable products. The

Astronomy Club organized a workshop on stars and observed the Perseverance Rover's landing on Mars. SAE organized a workshop on transmission systems and a discussion on an automobile's electrical components. COPS launched Hackalog, a platform to organize hackathons.

## Alumni Updates

SAIC, on the occasion of the Institute Foundation Day, released a short video celebrating the 102 year journey of IIT (BHU). The current 3 courses under the Alumni Visiting Faculty program are: Data and Digital Economy, Media Environment and Ouality Management, and Business Strategy.



AIBA launched its summer internship program for the students of IIT (BHU) to provide them the exposure to research in the core areas of engineering.



#### Mission

The IIT (BHU) Foundation, a non-profit body formed by our esteemed alumni, aims to be the enabler in the Institute's transformation. For this, it will monitor the use of funds for various projects under three major pillars of focus - Campus Infrastructure, Research Sponsorship and Faculty Support, Scholarships and Financial Aid for Students.

**Board Members** 



Arun Tripathi (MEC '97' , President



Ramesh Srinivasan (MET '82) Board Member



Prof. Pramod Kumar Jain Director, IIT(BHU), Varanasi Ex-Officio Board Member



Vikash Agrawal (CHE '95) , Secretary



Soumyo Sarkar (MEC '79) Board Member



(CSE '03)

Ex-Officio Board

Member

Prof. Rajeev Srivastava Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs), IIT(BHU), Varanasi Ex-Officio Board Member



Naresh Jain (MEC '67)

Chairman

#### Vish Narayanan (EEE '83) Head, Alumni Engagement

### Know your campus: Forgotten facts

In a sense of aesthetical reflection, the BHU layout plan could be visualized like a **dancing peacock (Mayur)** in a natural setting. The middle part refers to his body, to which the two sides covered by the Central Office and the Vishwanatha temple. The followed up **crescent-shaped roads** and attached building of different faculties, and sequentially lying playgrounds and students' dormitories and finally the residential buildings - altogether looks like ribs and feathers of the dancing peacock that reminds the harmonious ballet and interrelatedness between man and the nature.

- History of the BHU, S.L. Dar and S. Somaskandan



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#### Semi-circular lanes

The 3rd, 4th and 5th semi-circles consist of hostels, playgrounds and academic buildings. Popular folklore says that Mahamana believed that students' path from their hostel to an academic building should go via the playground, highlighting the importance he gave to sports and fitness.



The Vishwanath Temple stands 76.5m tall, and it's inner sanctum ('garbha griha') lies at the centre of the semi-circular campus, surrounded by 6 blocks in each north and south of the radial path. The walls of the temple are inscribed with lines from the *Bhagavata Gita*. The temple's construction began in 1938, but was completed only in 1966.





Main Gate, Lanka

The campus Main Gate, as we know it today, was constructed in 1941; before that, a smaller gate was present. The BHU main gate is also known as the '*Simgh Dwar*', and was constructed with the donation by Maharaja Sahib of Balrampur, Maharaja Pateshvari Prasad Singh.



Peter Vacher with the remnants of the plane in the campus. A World War II fighter plane's remaining structure lies near the Department of Chemistry, near the DoAA office. The plane was bought by Peter Vacher in 2001 for 27,000 pounds and was later restored. The plane with the make number R4118, was part of the fleet that defended London during the Blitz. It is in fact the only surviving and flying Hurricane out of the 14,500. At present, only the remaining junk of the plane lies in the campus.

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Originally the Foundation Stone of the University was laid in 1916, 500m east from the present eastern boundary in the north-western part. This site faced the havoc of periodic floods which compelled the shifting of the University to the west of its foundation stone.



Foundation Stone spot 1916

#### Do you have similar stories/facts to share? Get them featured in the upcoming editions by filling this form: <u>http://bit.ly/know\_your\_campus</u>

SAIC is grateful to the Director, Dean (Resource & Alumni Affairs), Alumni Associations, and the entire IIT (BHU) fraternity for their constant support and blessings. We look forward to your valuable feedback. To share information for future editions, reach us at <u>alumnicell@iitbhu.ac.in</u>.

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