



Newsletter

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NE Central Universities Vice-Chancellors' Meet

The third meeting of the Forum of Vice Chancellors of North Eastern Central Universities was held at Tezpur University on June 8. Vice Chancellors of the following Central Universities took part in the deliberations of the meeting: Professor A. N. Rai, VC Mizoram University, Professor P. Tandon, VC NEHU, Professor T. Bhattacharjee, VC Assam University, Professor K.C. Belliappa, VC Rajiv Gandhi University, Professor Arunoday Saha, VC Tripura University, Professor Mahendra P. Lama, VC

Sikkim University, Professor Nanda Kumar Sarma, Pro-VC Manipur University and Professor M. K. Chaudhuri, VC Tezpur University. The meeting was chaired the Chairperson of the Forum Professor Mrinal Miri. Dr. (Mrs.) Renu Batra, Jt. Secy. UGC and Mr. R. D. Sahay, Director (CU), MHRD also attended the meeting. All the Deans of Schools and the Head of the Departments attended the brief inaugural function.

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V C ' s C o r n e r

In the course of his address at the third forum meeting of the Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities in the Northeast, Professor M K Chaudhuri informed his counterparts of a few significant recent achievements of Tezpur University. Excerpts:

A former postgraduate student of Nanoscience and Technology from the Department of Physics has been selected out of 100 globally short listed candidates for award of a Fellowship to pursue Ph.D. at EMPA-Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research, Uberlandstrasse, University of Basel, Switzerland.

Five hundred scholarships have been recently created under the aegis of the Consortium of human resource development for Pharma-biotechnology in a meeting at North East Institute of Science & Technology (NEIST), Jorhat at the behest of Prof. Samir Brahmachari, Director General, CSIR, Govt. of India. This has been done on the basis of a MoU signed between the CSIR and Tezpur University a few years ago.

Dr. Pritam Deb, Associate Professor, Department of Physics has been selected for the award of the prestigious Max Planck Fellowship from Max Planck Society, Germany and the DST, Govt. of India for the period 2009-2012 for collaborative research with the Max Planck Institute, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Dr. Pritam Deb, Associate Professor, Department of

Physics has been awarded an amount of Rs. 363 lakh, for his project on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology by the DST, Govt. of India.

This is the highest amount earned by a faculty member as single Principal Investigator of a project.

The AICTE has awarded grants amounting to Rupees one crore twenty lakh seventy-nine thousand for various research projects submitted by the faculty of the University.

The faculty of the University have earned research grant from DST to the tune of Rs. 366.22 lakh.

The Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India has sanctioned R.298.57 lakh to the Department of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, for projects submitted by it on Research and Teaching.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering and CDAC, Ministry of Information Technology, Govt. of India for collaborative project for commercialization of Electronic Nose for the Tea industry.



E d i t o r i a l

Tezpur University Newsletter is published twice a year to cover the news and events of the two semesters in the academic year. Quite a lot happens on campus each semester though for reasons of space we are not always able to cover everything. However, we hope this issue gives you a sense of life and events in the Spring Semester (January to June 2009).

This is the fourth issue of the *Tezpur University Newsletter* that the current editorial team has brought out. Sadly, Dr Arul Selvan (Dept of MCJ), who played a crucial role in bring out the newsletter, will be leaving us to take up a new assignment at IGNOU, New Delhi. Dr Selvan's cheerful nature and competence at layout and composing will be much missed. He once

complained (with his usual cheerful smile) about the high price of coconuts in Tezpur – he was not getting his chutneys, he said. It won't be easy to find a replacement for Arul but we at *Tezpur University Newsletter* wish him well. May he get all the coconuts and chutneys he deserves!

Eighth Convocation

The Eighth Convocation of Tezpur University was held on December 24, 2008. The Convocation was presided over by Shri Shiv Charan Mathur, Governor of Assam and Chancellor of Tezpur University. The Chancellor awarded the degrees and also delivered the Convocation Address. A total of 622 students received their degrees. Of these 567 were awarded masters degrees (264 from 2007 and 303 from 2008) while 26 received diplomas (15 from 2007 and 11 from 2008). 29 PhD degrees were awarded as well.

Though Convocation was scheduled to begin at 1200 hours it had to be delayed by a couple of hours as inclement weather made it impossible for the Governor's helicopter to take off from Guwahati. However, once the Convocation began it proceeded with customary solemnity and efficiency. The Chancellor, incidentally, was so pleased by the ambience of the University that he decided to stay overnight in the Tezpur University



Guest House and returned to the Raj Bhavan, Guwahati only on the following day.

From the VC's Convocation Speech: "We are pleased to inform the august gathering that our teaching and research mechanisms involve both basic aspects as well as the real world applications. This enables most of our students get placement just before or immediately after completion of their programme of studies and research."

From the Chancellor's Address: "The unique features of Tezpur University should be fully appreciated. It is a wholly residential University and as such enjoys a distinct advantage over conventional universities. Another heartening feature is that the male female ration is very nearly 60:40. Education in science in the Northeast has been seriously lagging behind. As a University that mainly imparts technical education, Tezpur University has a special significance in the region."

Foundation Day

Tezpur University celebrated its Sixteenth Foundation Day on January 21, 2009. A committee with Professor T K Maji (Dept of Chemical Sciences) as Chairperson organized a function in the Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha Auditorium. Invitees included the Principals and Headmasters and students of several neighbouring schools. Teachers and staff of Tezpur University's campus school, Takshashila Vidyapeeth, were also present. Some prominent citizens of Tezpur, Dr Laxmi Goswami (former Board of Management member), Mrs A Bora (former Board of Management member) and Dr. (Ms.) Sheela Barthakur (Padma Shri awardee

and Board of Management member) were felicitated at the meeting.

A highlight of the function was the best performance awards given to staff members in all categories (including group B, C and D) in recognition of and as an incentive for sincere hard work. Professor A K Mukerjee (Dept of MBBT) received the Best Researcher Award 2008. In his speech the Chief Guest, Professor A C Bhagabati, former Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar spoke admiringly of the progress made by Tezpur University since his last visit.

Faculty Achievements

Energy

Dr S K Samdarshi has been nominated by the Solar Energy Society of India (Indian Chapter of International Solar Energy Society, USA) to be a Member of its Governing Council for 2009-10.

Environmental Science

Professor K K Barua was elected as sectional member for the section of Environmental Science, Indian Science Congress Association, 2010.

Computer Science and Engineering

Professor D.K. Bhattacharyya has been nominated as Fellow member of ACEEE. He has also been nominated as Associate Editor of the 2nd International Journal of IJCE 2009.

Professor M. Dutta has been nominated Associate Editor of the 2nd International Journal of IJCE 2009.

Dr S M Hazarika was invited to deliver a talk at AAAI Stanford Spring Symposium 2009, March 23-25, 2009 Stanford University on “Benchmarking of Qualitative Spatial & Temporal Reasoning Systems”. Dr Hazarika has also been nominated as Member, IASTED Technical Committee on Robotics, for 2007-2010.

Electronics and Communication Engineering

Bhabesh Deka was visiting faculty in the Dept of Electrical Engineering, IISc, Bangalore from January 21 to February 20 under the FIST=DST programme.

Cultural Studies

Dr. Debarshi P. Nath has been invited to visit several Universities in Canada under Faculty Enrichment Programme of the Shastri Institute of Indo-Canadian Studies.

Mathematical Sciences

Dr. Munmun Hazarika has been awarded a Fast Track Project for Young Scientists from DST on “A study of k -hyponormality as a bridge between subnormality and hyponormality.”

Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

Professor B. K. Konwar obtained research funding from ONGC with a total outlay of Rs. 70.03 lakh for

his project “Bioremediation of crude oil contaminated soil”

Physics

Dr. P. Deb received a Max Planck Fellowship from the Max Planck Society, Germany and the Department of Science & Technology, Govt of India, 2009-2012.

Recognition

Four Departments, namely Chemical Sciences, Computer Science and Engineering, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, and English and Foreign Languages have received UGC's recognition by winning support under the Special Assistance Programme (SAP) of UGC

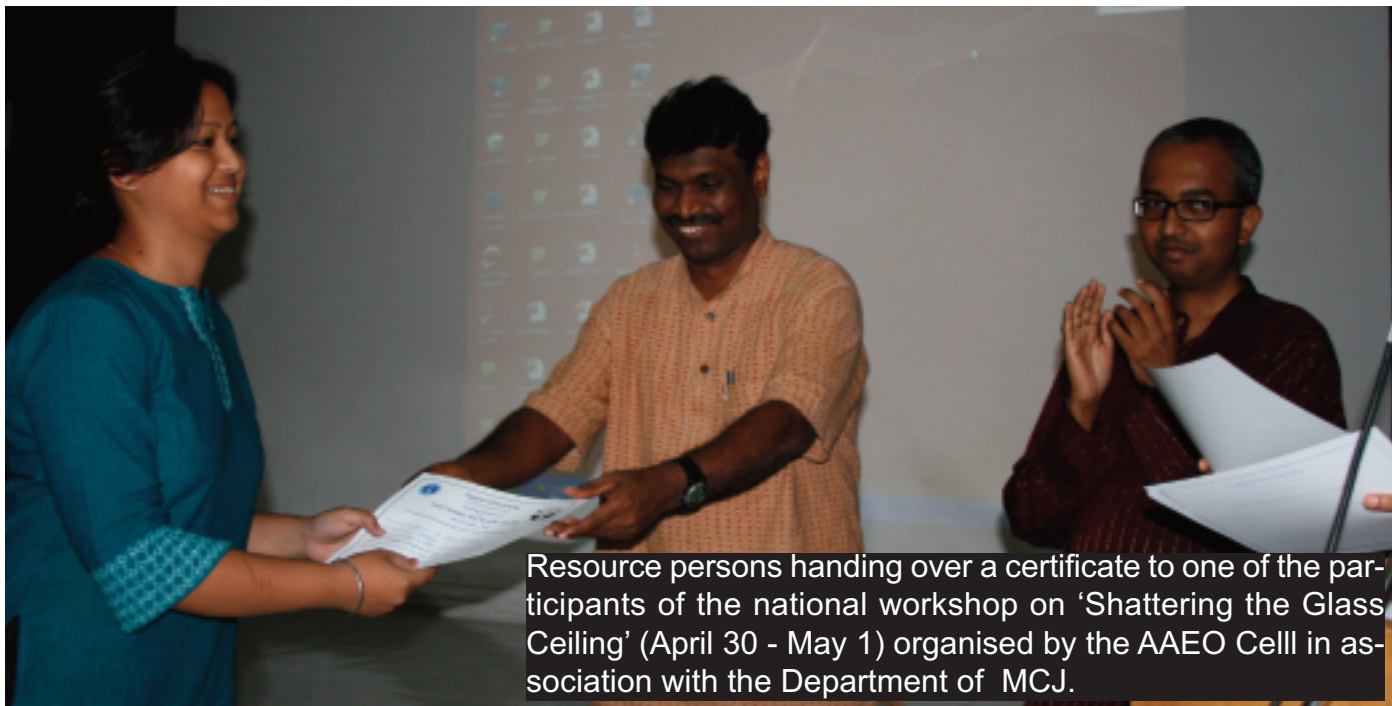
Tezpur University has been identified by the Centre for Cooperation in Science and Technology among Developing Societies (CCSTDS) for providing short-term research training to candidates nominated from the developing countries by CCSTDS at its expense. CCSTDS is a Centre established by INSA and DST, Government of India.

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India has requested Tezpur University to act as the nodal centre for updating Biochemistry, Molecular Biotechnology and Pathological laboratories of all Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals of the Northeastern region. The funds as well as the technical manpower required for this purpose will be provided by DBT.

The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has identified Tezpur University to attach a research unit for Ayurveda and Siddha studies at the Centre's expense.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India has recommended Tezpur University for implementation of the INSPIRE programme of DST. The aim of the programme is to provide inspirational training in higher education and research to 800 bright school students (post class X) of Assam.

Seminars / Workshops



Resource persons handing over a certificate to one of the participants of the national workshop on 'Shattering the Glass Ceiling' (April 30 - May 1) organised by the AAEO Cell in association with the Department of MCJ.

Workshop on Capacity Building for Women

A Workshop on Capacity Building for Women, coordinated by Madhurima Goswami, Lecturer, Dept of Cultural Studies and under the aegis of UGC, was held from February 2 to February 6.

Centre for Disaster Management

The Centre for Disaster Management of Tezpur University conducted 5 training courses on different aspects of Risk and Damage Mitigation during the period January to March at Tezpur University, Dhekiajuli College, Gohpur College and Kaliabor College. 131 participants from concerned state government departments, colleges, HS schools and NGOs attended these courses. On February 21 the Centre in association with Dept of Environmental Science, Tezpur University and North East Network, Guwahati hosted a workshop on "Ecosystem Approach to Address Natural Resource Management in the Rural Context". Professor Debashis Banerjee, Adviser, Bio-Science, Samaj Pragati Sahyog, Madhya Pradesh attended the workshop as a Resource Person.

Dept of Environmental Science

The Dept organized a workshop on "Ecosystem Approach to Natural Resource Management in the Rural Complex" on February 21. The Dept also celebrated World Environment Day on June 5.

Dept of Food Processing Technology

The Dept, in alliance with association with Northeastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation, Guwahati and American Soybean Association, conducted an awareness programme on food and nutrition with special emphasis on soybean on June 1.

Dept of Cultural Studies

The Dept organized a 3-day seminar on "Oral Literature of North East India in English Translation: from the Field to Print". The seminar began on February 25 and was supported by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi. The Dept also organized a workshop on February 9, 10, 11 on "Current Directions and Methodologies in Folklore and Cultural Studies". The workshop was conducted by Professor Ulo Valk of the University of Tartu, Estonia.

Dept of English and Foreign Languages

The Department, in collaboration with Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, organized a 10-day workshop and a 2-day national seminar on some minor languages of the North East: Mising, Dimas, Kokborok, Thadou, Bodo, and Meetei. The workshop ended on January 10 and was followed by the national seminar on January 11 and 12. The Dept also organized a national seminar on "Representation of Nature

in Literature: Contemporary Issues” on April 8 and 9. This seminar was sponsored by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.

Dept of Sociology

A workshop on “Research Methodologies in the Humanities and Social Sciences” was held from April 21 to 29. Dr Ashley Tellis acted as the Resource person.

Dept of Business Administration

The Dept’s annual industry-academia interface, “Sampark”, was held on January 23. The session was attended by Vice-Chancellor, Professor M K Chaudhuri, Mr M K Agarwala of the Agarwala Group, Mr Arwin Sushil, CEO Baptist Christian Hospital and Mr Ravikumar, GM Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited. Indian Oil Corporation made a case-study presentation while India Tourism put up an exhibition. A corporate quiz was also held.

Dept of Chemical Sciences

A Summer School on Green Chemistry sponsored by the DST, New Delhi was organized by the Department of Chemical Sciences during June 2-22. Young scientist/faculty members from the NE region participated in the School.

Dept of Mathematical Sciences

The Department of Mathematical Sciences celebrated Pi-day on March 14 with a lecture on Pi and various pi-related open competitions among the students of the University and nearby schools and colleges. Mr. Nasif Uddin Ahmed of the Department of Mathematical Sciences won the pi-recitation from memory contest by reciting 1051 digits in only 3 minutes 30 seconds. He was followed by the defending champion Ujjal Gogoi of the Department of Chemical Sciences who recited 437 digits. The B.Tech. group of Abhilash, Pankaj, Mahendra and Topash won the pi-symbol making competition while Thomas Mili of the Department of Mathematical Sciences was adjudged as the fastest Pie-Eater of Tezpur University.



Department of MCJ's annual students' event VISTAS held on May 11, 2009. Three documentaries produced by the students were screened.

Forthcoming

Energy

The Dept plans to organize Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Divas (RGAUD) on August 20.

Business Administration

The Dept will celebrate World Tourism Day on celebrated September 27. It will also organize the MCB Memorial Quiz Competition and MCB Oration on November 16 in the memory of late Professor M.C.Bora.

TechXETRA 09

TechXETRA, Tezpur University's annual technical festival will be held on September 18 and 19.

Annual Meet

The Twelfth Annual meet began in September 2008 with football, volleyball, basketball and table tennis competitions. The concluding session was held from February 26 to February 28, 2009 with track and field events, and cultural and literary competitions.

In absence of the Vice Chancellor, Professor M K Chaudhuri, Professor Amarjyoti Choudhury (Dept of Physics) lighted the lamp to mark the ceremonial start to the concluding session. This was followed by the hoisting of the University flag. Earlier the Sports Officer of the University, Mr Pankaj Borah, handed over the torch to Professor Choudhury, which was also carried by Mr. Bhabesh Nath (Senior Lecturer, Dept of Computer Science and Engineering) and the captains of the winning teams of the various events. A march past competition was held in which all the hostels of the University participated. The oath was administered by the Dean of Students' Welfare, Dr M K Sarma (Dept of Business Administration). Mr. Prem Kanta Deka of Tezpur, a distinguished sports personality and sports organizer of yesteryear, graced the occasion as chief guest. Well known singer Mr. John Chakraborty performed in the closing ceremony.

Individual Best Performers

Man of the match (cricket): Abhijit Talukder, B. Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)
Best bowler (cricket): Pratyush

Kumar Deka, B. Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Man of the series (cricket): Ankit Kumar, B. Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Best player (basketball)

Anupam Das B. Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Best player (volleyball for men)

Nabajyoti Nath (Dept of Mathematical Sciences)

Best player (volleyball for women): Himadri Gogoi (Dept of Food Processing Technology)

Best player (football):

Ankur Guha (Dept of Chemical Sciences)

Best competitor

Bipasha Borah (Dept of Cultural Studies)

(Literary events)

Best dancer

Vaswati Kalita (Dept of Cultural Studies)

Best singer

Ananya Bonjyotsna (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Marathon champion

Rakesh Das (Dept of Mathematical Sciences)

Strongman of Tezpur University

Prince Goswami (Dept of Mathematical Sciences)

Champion of champions

Rohit Kayshap (arm wrestling for men) (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Champion of champions (arm wrestling for women)

Bijay Lakshmi Saikia (B. Tech., Dept of Mechanical Engineering)

Best athlete (men)

Aniket Chakraborty (B Tech, Dept of Mechanical Engineering)

Best athlete (women)

Meghali Nath (Dept of Mass Communication and Journalism)

Mr. Tezpur University

Prince Goswami (Dept of Mathematical Sciences)

Team Events

Cricket Champion:

B. Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Runners Up: Dept. Of Business Administration

March-past Champion: Bordoichila Women's Hostel

Runners-up: Dhansiri Women's hostel

Football Champion: PCMFEE (Combined team)

Runners-up: B. Tech (Mechanical)

Volleyball (Men): - Champion: PCMFEE (Combined team)

Runners-up: Dept of Mathematical Sciences

Volleyball (Women) Champion: Dhansiri Women's Hostel (B.Team)

Runners-up: Dhansiri Women's Hostel (A.Team)

Basketball Champion: B.Tech (Dept of Computer Science and Engineering.)

Runners-up: M.C.A.

Kabadi (Men) Champion: Brahma-putra Men's Hostel

Runners-up: Charaidew Men's Hostel

Kabadi (Women) Champion: Dhansiri Women's Hostel

Runners-up: Pragjyotika Women's Hostel

Faculty Publications

The following non-exhaustive list of publications by Tezpur University faculty is relevant to the period of January to June 2009. For reasons of space, it is necessarily highly selective. A comprehensive, annual listing of research publications by the University's faculty will appear in Tezpur University's forthcoming annual report.

Environmental Science

M L Khan, Ashalata Devi Khumbongmayum and R S Tripathi. 2009. "The sacred groves and their significance in conserving biodiversity – an overview". *International Journal of Ecology and Environmental Sciences*, 34 (3): 277-291.

Baruah, K K and Das, K (2009). "Methane emission from rice paddies grown in low land agrosystem of Assam". *Experiment Agriculture* (Cambridge University). (In press)

Gupta, P K, Vandana Gupta, Sharma, C., S.N. Purkait, N., Adhya, T.K. Pathak, H, R., Baruah, K.K., Venkatratnam, L., Singh, G. and Iyer, C.S.P. (2009) "Development of methane emission factors for Indian paddy fields and estimation of national methane budget". *Chemosphere* (Elsevier) (in press).

Sarma K. P and Talukdar, B. (2009). "Sediment characteristics and concentration of heavy metal in water and sediments of the effluents discharging water bodies of Nagaon paper mill, Assam". *Asian Journal of Water, Environment and Pollution*. (in press).

R. Goswami, Sarma K. P and Bhavani Devi (2009) "Comparative study on accumulation of cadmium in three journal of Environmental aquatic plants". *Research and Development*. (in press)

Computer Science and Engineering

S. M. Hazarika "Landmark-based Shape Context for Recognition of Handwritten Digits" in *Utilizing Information Technology Systems across Disciplines: Advancements in the Application of Computer Science*. Evon M. O. Abu-Taieh et. al. (Editors), IGI Global January 2009

Electronics and Communication Engineering

P P Sahu, "A Parabolic tapered structure for ultra compact multimode interference coupler". *Applied Optics*

48, 206-211 (2009).

P P Sahu and M Singh, "Multichannel direct sequence spread spectrum signaling using code phase shift keying". *Computer and Electrical Engineering* (Elsevier). Vol 35 (1) pp 218-226 (2009).

Chemical Sciences

Prof. T.K. Maji, A naval microspeculation of Neem (Azadirachta Indica A. Juss) seed oil in polyelectrolyte complexed K –carrageenan and chitosan, *J. Applied Polymer Science*(DOI: 10.1002/app. 30038)

Ramesh C. Deka, Ajanta Deka, Akira Miyamoto, Density functional studies on the structure and reverse hydrogen spillover in Au₆ cluster supported on zeolite, *Catalysis Letters*, 2009 (Accepted)

Pubalee Sarmah and Ramesh C. Deka, DFT-based QSAR and QSPR models of several cis-platinum complexes: solvent effect, *Journal of Computer-Aided Molecular Design*, 2009 (in press)

Bulumoni Kalita and Ramesh C. Deka, DFT study of CO absorption on neutral and charged Pd_n (n=1-7) clusters, *The European Journal D* 53(2009)51-58.

Mahapatra S.S. and Karak N., Hyperbranched polyamine / Cu nanoparticles as potential agent for Epoxy resin, *J. Macromol. Sci. Part A: PAC*. 46, 296-303, 2009

D. Kalita, S.P. Das, N.S. Islam, "Kinetic of Inhibition Rabbit Intestine Alkaline inophatax by perexo complexes of V (v) and W (VI)" *Biol. Trace, Elem. Res*, 2009 (in press)

Cultural Studies

Debarshi P. Nath: "Exploring the Alternative Discourse of Quilt-Making in *The Color Purple*". *DUJES, No 17*. Dibrugarh: Dibrugarh University. April 2009.

English and Foreign Languages

Prasanta Das, "Jim Corbett's 'Green' Imperialism", *EPW*, Vol 44, No 15, April 11, 2009.

Sociology

Das, Amiya Kumar, "Women empowerment sans power: cases from Northeast India" in *Changing Gender equation with Special reference to Nagaland* Ed. by Kedilizo Kikhi and Narola Dangti Kikhi. Akansha Publishing House, New Delhi, 2009.

Business Administration

International Journal of Travel and Tourism has accepted a research paper on "ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS IN PROMOTING ECO-TOURISM" written jointly by Dr. Chandana Goswami and Pranab J Patar.

An article entitled "Information Source Usage among Motive-based Segments of Travelers to Newly Emerging Tourist Destinations" written by Dr.M.K.Sarma along with Banasree Dey is accepted for publication in *Tourism Management* (Elsevier).

Mathematical Sciences

Rupem Barman (with Anupam Saikia) Iwasawa lambda invariants and Gamma transforms, *Journal of the Ramanujan Mathematical Society*, accepted for publication (RMS).

Bhupen Deka (with Rajen K. Sinha) Finite element methods for semilinear elliptic and parabolic interface problems, *Applied Numerical Mathematics*, accepted for publication (Elsevier)

Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

Rai, S.K. and Mukherjee, A. K. (2009) Ecological significance and some biotechnological application of an organic -solvent stable alkaline serine protease from *Bacillus subtilis* strain DM-04. *Bioresource Technology* 100, 2642-2645 (Elsevier)

Mukherjee, A. K., Bora, M. and Rai, S. K. (2009) To study the influence of different components of fermentable substrates on induction of extra cellular α -amylase synthesis by *Bacillus subtilis* DM-03 in solid state fermentation and exploration of feasibility for inclusion of α -amylase in laundry detergent formulations. *Biochemical Engineering Journal* 43,149-156

(Elsevier)

Dubey, B, Buragohain A. K. and Ray S. K., 2009, Positive correlation of bacterial genome G + C % with the number of different anticodons used by the genome to decode all the codons. *Icfai Univ J Biotech* 2009; III: 39-47

N. K. Bordoloi and B. K. Konwar Bacterial biosurfactant in enhancing solubility and metabolism of petroleum hydrocarbons. *Journal of Hazardous Materials* (accepted).

Physics

N.Misra,M.Roy,D.Mohanta,K.Baruah,A.Choudhury, "Photochromism and magneto-optic response of ZnO:Mn semiconductor quantum dots fabricated by nonemulsion route", *Central European Physics Journal*,6(1),109-115,2008.

S.Chowdhury,A.M.P Hussain , G.A.Ahmed and A.Choudhury. "Frequency dependent electrical characteristics of Pbs quantum dots"European". *Physics Journal* 42(2), 2008,p.113

M. Deka, A.K. Nath, and A. Kumar, "Effect of de-doped (insulating) polyanilinenanofibers on the ionic transport and interfacial stability of poly(vinylidene fluoridehexafluoropropylene) based composite polymer electrolyte membranes". *J. Membrane Science*, 327 (2009)188-194.

J.K. Sarma, "Evolution of spin-dependent structure functions from DGLAP equations in leading order and next to leading order". *Phys. Rev. D* 79 (2009) 034030.

D.K. Bora and P.Deb, "Fatty acid binding domain mediated conjugation of ultrafine magnetic nanoparticles". *Nano. Res. Lett.*, 4 (2009)138.

D. Roy, P. Deb, A. Basumallick and B. Basu "Photoluminescence of Fe₂O₃ nanoparticles processed by high energy mechanical milling," *J. of Optics* (2009) (in press).

Student Achievements

Bulumoni Kalita, Ph.D. student of the Department of Chemical Sciences, visited China in June as part of an Indian Youth Delegation.

Fourth semester students of the Department of Sociology Bonobithi Das, Barnali Das, Usharani Boro, Neena Choudhury and Sangjukta Sutradhar were chosen for the National Human Rights Commission's Winter Internship Programme, New Delhi held from December 15, 2008 to January 15, 2009.

Indrani Sarma, doctoral student (Sociology), has been selected to participate in a 3 week workshop on "Philosophy for the Social Sciences and Humanities" in National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Bangalore to be held from June 8 to June 27.

Students of the Dept of Business Administration participated in the Business School Meet in Guwahati organized by Assam Institute of Management. Second semester students Rupesh Biswas and Muhibul Islam won the first prize in the Ad Event while Kannaki Devi, Neelam Das and Pinky Jidung (also from the second semester) won the third prize in the Collage Making Competition.

Samrat Paul, Dept of Energy, won the Best paper award in the Poster session of the Engineering Section of the 96th National Science Congress held in NEHU, Shillong from January 3 to 7.

Surabhi Deka, research scholar, Department of Mathematical Sciences, got a Women Scientist Project from DST on "Modeling of flood-hazard with special reference to North-East India."

Sumit Dandapat, a fourth semester student of the Dept Mathematical Sciences, cleared GATE-2009 with 95.69 percentile

Sonia Devi Lourembam and Clara Ermine Sawian of the Dept of MBBT were awarded a Jawaharlal Nehru scholarship and a Rajiv Gandhi fellowship respectively for doctoral studies.

Maitreyee Saikia, a sixth semester B.Tech student (Computer Science and Engineering), has been awarded a Summer Internship in Spatial Cognition by the Cognitive Systems Research Group, University of Bremen, Germany.



Cricket legend Kapil Dev visited the University on February 27.

Placements

The placement activities for the year 2009 began in January and are still going on. Although the number of organizations visiting the University is less than earlier years owing to the global economic recession, quite a few organizations such as Axis Bank, Tata-AIG, SBI Life, HCL, Royal Institute of Management & Technology, Girijananda Institute of Management & Technology, Don Bosco University, Centre for Science & Environment, New Delhi etc., have recruited our students on-campus as well as off-campus. Another lot of organizations including PRADAN, BCPL, Godrej, ITC, Dyna Roof etc. will be conducting recruitment interviews shortly.

Campus News

Pragati Women's Association

Pragati Women's Association of Tezpur University was started with the objective of providing a forum for wives of employees and women working in the University to promote music, art, literature, sports etc. and to facilitate amenities such as parks, activity centre etc., within the campus. The activities of the Association focus on recreation, entertainment, social and cultural activities within the campus and in the vicinity of the University.

Mrs Jaya Chaudhuri is the founder President of the Association. From its inception on August 15, 2007 the Association has regularly celebrated Republic Day, Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti, Children's Day and World Environment Day by organizing cultural programs, quiz, sports, screening of documentary etc. Bohagi Bihu Utsab was celebrated with great enthusiasm and it included the students of the University.

In addition, the Association with the AAEO Cell, Tezpur University organized a talk on "Common Gynecological problems on Women" and "International Fortnight Protesting Violence Against Women and Girl Child". A Diwali Mela was organized by the Association and half of the proceeds was donated as charity to "Nabaprabhat", the old age and orphanage home at Ketakibari, Tezpur (see photo below). This year in collaboration with the University's AAEO Cell, a workshop on "Reproduction Health and AIDS Awareness Program" was conducted on International Women's Day where eminent gynecologists were invited to educate women labourers working at construction sites inside the University. Pragati Women Association of Tezpur University is committed to make the campus and its vicinity a better place to live in.

Reported by Dr (Mrs) Nidhi Bhattacharyya (Associate Professor, Dept of Physics)



A DST team comprising of Professor Alok Bhattacharyya, JNU, New Delhi Professor T. Ahmed, Delhi University and Dr Ch. Shivaji, Scientist E, DST, Govt of India visited Tezpur University on April 9 to hold a meeting of the DST Sub-group for FIST NER - Special Package.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mihir K. Chaudhuri, has been nominated as a member of the Research Council of North Eastern Institute of Science & Technology (NEIST), Jorhat. On May 9 Professor Chaudhuri delivered the Inaugural Lecture in the Royal Society, London sponsored Workshop in Green and Sustainable Chemistry & Technology at Delhi University.

Tezpur University Entrance Examination 2009

Entrance examinations for the various programmes of study at Tezpur University were held on May 29, 30 and 31 at the following centres: Agartala, Aizawl, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Dibrugarh, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Itanagar, Jorhat, Kohima, Kokrajhar, Kolkata, North Lakhimpur, Pune, Silchar, Shillong and Tezpur. The number of applications received this year was 4053, up from the 2788 applications received in 2008.

Entrance examinations were held for the new courses introduced at Tezpur University: integrated M Sc in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Bio-science and Bioinformatics and PG Diploma in Community Communication.

The entrance examinations were conducted by the Tezpur University Entrance Examination 2009 committee consisting of Professor K P Sarma (Dept of Environmental Science), Dr. Suvendra Ray (Dept of MBBT), Dr. R. R. Hoque (Dept of Environmental Science), Dr Pritam Deb (Dept of Physics) and Mr Polash Pratim Dutta (Dept of Mechanical Engineering).

The New Guest House



Editorial & Design Team: M K Sarma (B Adm), P K Das (EFL), K S Arul Selvan (MCJ), S Sarmah (EL), R R Haque (Env Sc), A J Thakur (Chem Sc), and A Nagraj (MCJ).

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