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Kuruksastra’12... still on our minds!
FUERA’12: Fast and Furious

It’s not every day that you find hostels inhabited by our college getting out of their beds as early as 5:30am. But thanks to Feura, our intra-college sports fest, the unthinkable has happened! Students participated in the fest with great enthusiasm which started right after Daikh’12. Though the fest took place during a hectic time of the year with midsem and Kuruksastra all around the same time, that didn’t deter the sports lovers of SASTRA from participating in it.

With the exception of athletics and snooker the results of various other events are yet to be out.

ATHLETICS: As many as 75 students competed in the event. Praveen Kumar (I- Chem) and D.Kavi Bharathi (II-mech) were the 100m and 200m champions respectively. N.Manikanadan (II-EEE) finished first in 400m, 800m and 1500m events and he was rightly adjudged the individual champion but not without a fight from Dilip Raju (IV-Bio Info) who won the long jump and triple jump events. S.Udhayakumar (III-Civil) won the 3000m event. The other winners included P.Rajaram (III ICT) – high jump, Ashok Raj (IV EEE) – shot-put, and K.Arun(III ICT) – javelin.

SNOOKER: In snooker Vivek (III Bio) competed with 30 players to win the singles title while Nandan (II ECE) and D.V.Charan (II Civil) emerged victorious in the doubles category which saw 13 teams participating in it.

Coming to other events, 48 teams registered for cricket whereas the count for football was 54. In badminton there were 48 entries for the singles category and 58 for doubles. The above mentioned numbers indicate the overwhelming response for the fest. As said by Diwakar, one of the members of the organizing team “yes, this time around we expected a lot of entries for all the events, but the final numbers took us by surprise.” Volleyball and basketball had 26 and 24 teams competing in the respective events. Owing to the huge response and sheer number of registrations, the fest has been prolonged and the semi-final matches of all other events are scheduled to take place after Kuruksastra.

Fuera’12 has been a resounding success and if the magnitude of success is anything to go by, it only indicates the love and craze we have for sports.

Sreekanth Krishna
II EEE

FUERA’12: Girl Power

“Sports do not build character, they reveal it.” Character showed up everywhere this March. There were golden memories, sudden disappointments and moments of glory and above all the spirit of the game. Yes, Fuera, the intra-university sports fest made its annual visit, and here, I provide you an account of the what and the who on the side of the girls.

There was enthusiastic participation for the game of precision too. Scheduled to start from the 1st week of March, the sports fest was geared up with registrations and with a plethora of game-events, both indoor and outdoor.

The events included:-

Badminton: Both Singles and Doubles were held. The singles event started on the 5th of March and doubles event started on the 8th of March.

Basketball: On a league and knock-out basis, the matches were held with 6 players per team (1 sub-stitute) and with all basketball rules applicable. It started on the 12th of March.

Volleyball: Held within the hostel premises, the games for the volleyball event kick-started with gusto and matches were held as per the fixtures between 7th and 8th of March. There were 3 teams in the league. The winners were team B which comprised Saiipriyadarshini (Captain)(III YR BIOE), Haripriyaa(II YR MCs), Archana(III YR ECE), Kavitha(II YR MIC), Reenita(II YR EEE) , Meenakshi(II YR CSE), Smitha(II YR ICT), SriRanjani(I YR) and Gayathiri(II YR EEE).

Throw ball: Another event filled with equal amounts of zeal, cheering and energy. With general rules applicable, this event also was held smoothly and within the hostel premises.

Indoor Events:-

Chess: The students proved their mettle when it came to “the game of Intelligence” too. The preliminary rounds were on knockout basis and full-redged game was played during the finals. The preliminary matches were held between 6th and 9th of March. The final was played on the 15th of March. Winner: Vishwanthitha(III yr CHEM), 2nd place Divya(II Yr ECE) and 3rd place went to ValliammaI(II yr BIOT).

Table Tennis: There was no less action when it came to the mini rackets and ping pong balls. The aura of enthusiasm was preserved though the exams were fast approaching. The preliminary games started on the 1st week of March, the sports fest was geared up with registrations and with a plethora of game-events, both indoor and outdoor.

The RNAB Conference

The Regulatory Network Architecture of Bacteria (RNAB) conference which was held on March 9, 10 and 11 witnessed some of the stalwarts from the field of Microbiology, Cell biology and other closely related interdisciplinary sciences, delivering lectures at length on various intriguing and inquisitive topics.

Day 1

The conference began with the inaugural ceremony which was graced by the convenors, Dr. S Adline Princy of SASTRA University, Dr.Sabu Thomas as well as the invitees, followed by a photo session. The first guest lecture by Dr.Anand Manoharan of the department of infectious diseases, CMC, Vellore was on the alliance of invasive pneumococcal bacteria and its implications on vaccine strategies. It was followed by consecutive lectures on the pathogenicity of Mycobacterium tuberculosis (the etiological agent of tuberculosis) by Dr.Yosef Av-Gay, host pathogen interactions by Dr.Akhil C.Banerjee

and extensive analysis on tuberculosis by Dr.Satish mundyoor.

Day 2

The conference included guest lectures, oral and poster presentations spread over equal intervals during the day. The day kick started with the first lecture by Dr.Weng chan, representing the centre of bimolecular sciences, University of Nottingham, on deciphering quorum sensing which was again followed by oral presentations. The next two guest lectures by Dr.Peter Taylor of the London school of pharmacy and Dr.T.Ramamurthy from the National institute of cholerat and enteric diseases saw them discussing novel antimicrobial and antibiotic resistance in detail. The last lecture explored the complex lifestyle adaptation in Pseudomonas aeruginosa which influence antibiotic resistance and virulence by Dr.Robert E.W.Hancock, from The University of British Columbia, Canada.

The last day of the conference was convened by Dr.Umesh Varshney and Dr.N.Ayyadurai taking turns. The first lecture was delivered by Dr.Umesh Varshney from IISC, Banglore on the omics in bacteria, followed by Dr.N.Ayyadurai from the Yengham University on tailor made proteins prepared by expanding the genetic code. The conference came to an end with the last lecture being delivered after lunch by Dr.Mufi Suhail Sayeed on combating antimicrobial resistance. The conference had proved to be a scientifically enriching experience and lived up to its expectations.

Shweta Gajapathi
I BIOT

Sponsored by Canopy
In the Life of...

Our lives might be mundane or joyful depending on how we look at it. After all, we are the student community. But what about the lives of the others? The faculty, administration, wardens, attendants; even the people cleaning the rooms? It could be correct to say that the world they live in is different although we all reside in the same campus. In a first, Imprint creates this new column “In the life of...” to find out their side of the story. In the current edition, two faculty members have been asked a list of the same questions regarding their lives and profession. The first is a senior Professor, Dr. Haranarayan Upadhyay of the Electronics and Communication Engineering Department and the second is a much younger Vinoth Kumar S, Assistant Professor of the Civil Engineering department.

Dr. Upadhyay

1. When did you embrace the thought of joining the teaching profession, and why?
When I had registered for B.Ed in 1990, it had become clear to me that teaching is the very noble profession.

2. You have had experience of 16 years of professional teaching. How have they influenced you and your life?
I think the system is a “live feedback loop”, where the feedback is from young minds. It energises a teacher and I am no exception to it.

3. Please tell us more about your work methods.
Where ever I teach, I first try to obtain the “bandwidth” of the students, and then involve myself in the same bandwidth. I also strongly believe in effective communication for good teaching.

4. What are your thoughts on college festivals and department symposiums?
It is good phenomena, but generally, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities get mixed up. Also, crowd management is a problem that’s been faced nowadays.

5. What do you expect from your students in general?
I think that all students should follow the Sastra motto. They should not only be engineers, but also noble citizens. They must live locally, and think globally.

6. To what extent do you see marks as a measure of students’ calibre?
The thought’s a typical practice to assess students by their marks, I believe that it isn’t the only criterion to measure the intellectual capabilities of students.

7. On a lighter note, how do you treat latecomers?
I allow them to come in as long as they don’t disturb me or my class.

8. This one works like a rapid fire round. Please fill in the first word that comes to mind when the following are mentioned -
Student: Good
Teach: average (it’s mainly for them)
Fun: Be at Sastra
Research: for the nation

Dr. Haranarayan Upadhyay

Mr. Vinoth Kumar

1. When did you embrace the thought of joining the teaching Fraternity, and why?
I started considering the teaching profession when I had been working in an IT company; the job was quite stressful. I felt a sense of responsibility and need for accomplishment at the thought of imparting knowledge to future generations, hence my decision.

2. You have had experience of 6 months of professional teaching. How have they influenced you and your life?
I could say that these 6 months have made me more professional.

3. Please tell us more about your work methods.
I prefer the practical approach to the theoretical. I believe in application. I try making my class fun and experimental as much as possible.

4. What are your thoughts on college festivals and department symposiums?
I think that the tech fests are a must and I am very proud to see the student community take interest in organising them, including department symposiums. Such students would have new ideas to make the events innovative and informative.

5. What do you expect from your students in general?
I infer from my life that with responsibility come respect and the passion for perfection in doing things. I want my students to be responsible.

6. To what extent do you see marks as a measure of students’ calibre?
I think that marks play a small role in students’ calibre because, as I had mentioned, I believe in the practical approach as they gauge the presence of mind.

7. On a lighter note, how do you treat latecomers?
I will allow the latecomers since, assuming that they would have their justifiable reasons for being so.

8. This one works like a rapid fire round. Please fill in the first word that comes to mind when the following are mentioned -
Student: More brilliant than the rest of the people.
Teach: To teach what we know to others.
Fun: An exciting state.
Research: Collecting others’ data.

Mr. Vinoth Kumar

Cricket Carnival – The SCL

The SASTRA Cricket League, or SCL, is a cricket tournament that takes place every semester. That being said, last semester’s edition of SCL was the largest number of teams participating in the history of the SCL. The matches were gripping and the tournament was conducted in an efficient and effective manner. Congratulations to team Arjunas, the victors and also to the team Arrear Kings, who were elected as the best emerging team.

Since SCL is conducted every semester, we have much to look forward to. Here’s to the omnipresent cricketing culture in SASTRA, and to The SCL.

The Imprint team wishes Subramaniyan Santhana Karan/ Subbu, the main organizer behind the event, all success for his future endeavours.

Adithya Rangarajan

SPONSORED BY CANOPY
The Ides of March

The word Ides comes from the Latin word "idus", used mainly to refer to the approximate day which is the middle of the month in the Roman calendar. In Rome, The term 'ides' was used for the 15th day of the months of March, May, July, and October, and the 13th day of the other months. The Ides of March was a festive day dedicated to the god Mars and a military parade was usually held.

A more well known occurrence on the Ides of March, was in 44 B.C., Julius Caesar was assassinated, at the foot of a statue of Pompey where the Senate was meeting. Before Caesar went to the theater of Pompey to attend the Senate meeting, he had been given advice not to go, but he didn’t listen. A soothsayer had prophesied earlier that trouble would befall Caesar on the Ides of March, to which he paid no heed.

Origin of the phrase “Beware the Ides of March”:
Because of Caesar’s assassination and the soothsayer’s exchange with Julius Caesar about the dangers he faced in Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar tragedy, the Ides of March now signifies a fateful day, a day of infamy. The relevant passage is:
Caesar: Who is it in the press that calls on me?
I hear a tongue shriller than all the music
Cry "Caesar!" - Speak, Caesar is turn’d to hear.
Soothsayer: Beware the ides of March.
Caesar: What man is that?
Brutus: A soothsayer bids you beware the ides of March.

It is said that Caesar, later on, on the Ides of March, addressed the soothsayer on spotting him on his way to the meeting with the senate, to tell him that the Ides of March had come. To this, the soothsayer’s only reaction was to say that, the Ides of March may have come, but they weren’t over yet. For ancient Romans living before that event, an Ides was merely one of several common calendar terms used to mark monthly lunar events. The ides simply marked the appearance of the full moon. But the Ides of March assumed a whole new identity after the events of 44 B.C. The phrase came to represent a specific day of abrupt change that set off a ripple of repercussions throughout Roman society and civilization.

By the time of Caesar, Rome had a long-established republican government headed by two consuls with joint powers apart from a number of bodies at lower levels which handled the judicial and legislative matters. The Romans had no love for kings. According to legend, they disposed of their last one in 509 B.C. While Caesar had made public displays of turning down offers of kingship, he showed no reluctance to accept the office of “dictator for life” in February 44 B.C. this is believed to have convinced his enemies that he had to be removed from positions of power. Whether or not Caesar was a true tyrant is debated to this day. It is safe to say, however, that in the mind of Marcus Brutus, who helped mastermind the attack, Caesar posed a large threat to the democratic system of affairs. Brutus’s involvement in the murder is made tragic due to his close affiliations with Caesar. His mother, Servilia, was one of Caesar’s lovers. And although Brutus had fought against Caesar during Rome’s recent civil war, he was spared from death and later promoted by Caesar to the office of praetor. Brutus, however, was torn in his allegiance to Caesar. Brutus’s family had a tradition of rejecting authoritarian powers. Ancestor Junius Brutus threw out the last king of Rome, Tarquin Superbus, in 509 B.C. Ahala, An ancestor of Marcus Brutus’s mother, had killed another tyrant, Spurius Maelius. This lineage, along with a strong aversion to the Greek idea of tyrannicide, led Brutus to have little patience with perceived power grabbers.

In the end, the legacy of power Caesar established lived on through his heir Octavian, who later became Rome’s first emperor, also known as Imperator Caesar Augustus. The Ides of March remained a reminder to future rulers. “Octavian seems to have been aware of the problems of presenting himself as Caesar had. … The Ides became a lesson in political self-presentation,” it was said.

Mythri J
IECE

ACADSITE.com

Every now and then we observe an influx of new apps, software and websites in the common web space; and very often from people from our own institution. Quite frequently we see many of them serving the same need and with the increasing trend of extensive personalization in the web space; we find such websites and software clicking with the general user more often. So another website cum semi-forum attempts to ease the lives of students and provide a breather to the same in its own way. Even if it’s virtual space.

A product of a few months of programming and work, “acadsite.com” is a website, created by Sridhar Ganapathy and A.R Venkatesh, both 4th year IT senior students. In the words of Venkatesh, “Acadsite is designed in such a way that students are allowed to share the pool of resources they come across. The design also facilitates amalgamation of varied subjects under one roof.” To put things in a simpler manner, this site is specifically designed to a student’s academic needs. “Why not just use Facebook?” would be the first argument. The immediate argument fired back at me by Venkatesh was that Acadsite is currently very “SASTRA-centric”.

Various features separate Acadsite from social-networking sites, forums and other blogs, although the influences lie from all over. For firsts, new registered users get to exchange notes and other academic data. All previous University question papers are available for download. So the last-minute runs to the library can be given a miss. An apparent observation can be made that the site is quite customized for SASTRA students. The on-site app called the “CGPA tracker” helps the user plan his bright or dwindling academics based on previous history. Certainly helpful to the despondent types in my opinion. Like me. Another feature that one does not often get to see is the personalization feature, but do remember that it might just kick-start a trend on campus. There is also the usual blog feature for the expressionist types. Study-links are available for various curricula-pertaining topics. One feature that clearly stands out and which is quite apparent on the home page is the tracker that tracks all the cultural and technical fests that are going on in the country, and when.

Thus the ever vigilant can always go Rambo on the most seemingly of opportunities (after getting through the penance for hostel permission of course). That was the feature that brought me to acadsite in the first place. And a very long meeting with Venkatesh as of 17th March, 2012. It currently has a worldwide Alexa ranking of 916,104. If the site does go down well with majority of the students in campus, the founder duo plan on starting up an acadsite page in other colleges, with every college having its own customized acadsite page. They hope that it’s not a distant future; seeing as they have done quite decently since its launch on the 2nd of September 2011.

Readers need to understand that this article is not an advertisement but a preview of a website that has been a labour of love for this duo. Like many others, this site was not created as a source of income but to ease the users’ burdens. For that cause, I guess it should be given a try.

Sai Sharad Raj P
II Mech
Is it just me or does everyone not see the tears, sweat and blood flow as little brooks along the landscape that we tread upon every day? I eat to prevent myself from degrading and decomposing into lighter carbohydrates. I also eat because I like it. Little did it take for me to realize that, that has been where the tears and sweat started. Right before our eyes, the battleground of everyday meals and field of monetized delicacies.

Not one, not two but five. I have to see them every day, the five boys in the mess, two more in the canteen; little boys with sweat-stained uniforms and caps that look as if a buffaloo herd ran over them. They always look exhausted, bored and depressed having to be a part of this system. Division of Labour? Indeed. I would not mind self-service lest looking at a child placing a plantain on my plate, getting me the next hottest Idli/Roti, running back and forth filling jugs with water or worse, cleaning the table that I sat on! It is simply inhumane to expect my brain to let my digestive system synthesize that food. It’d be better if that kid had put C4 instead.

So, what DO I do? I have studied, written reports, articles and letters condemning child labour through every year of schooling. In fact, I’ve been inspired to write to certain newspapers about the alarming rate of child labour across the country. A visit to a hotel in Trichy brought my notice to a sign on the wall proclaiming that child labour, in any form is a punishable offence. That may very well apply to every corner of the country does it not?

What can the BOYS do? I spoke to a few of them. A boy said that he hails from across the ruddy Tropic of Cancer! What sort of a life does he expect to lead? One with no education, only servitude till adulthood and beyond? He could have the mind of a Suhas Gopinath, but how can it be put to use in a state of lockdown? And who will unlock it?

Did I mention some of them attend school? Night School! Ridiculous. What is more atrocious is that, the “guardian” sits with them through the day eating and monitoring. Who are these people?

I once saw a man negotiating (with a child next to him) with the owner of a store in my hostel about the “work” that he could do and “how much” he would do it for. What nonsense. Legally, these boys are eligible to work.

Oh yes! They have IDs to prove it. The boy may pass off as 10 at most (one-fourth my height, 6’3”). Gone are the days when child waiters are passed off as a contemporary factor of this world, a part of literary, movie humour. It never was and ceases to be funny.

The boys cannot possibly work. And our reach is unfortunately limited. So, we go to higher powers of the world. The authorities? Certainly. Ah, but the web untangles and we are told that the children need to support their families. Kicking them out would be brutal. No income, no food and the family perish. So have I reached an impasse? I’ve only just begun. Forget expanding into nearby villages; the clockwork needs to be oiled, precious parts rescued and nurtured to be put back as a kernel function. Indeed, there are organizations that help. Notify them. Sponsor the poor kid and put him through school. PAY him for the work that he’s doing. But do it for. What nonsense. Legally, these boys are eligible to work.

Meanwhile, I must teach him, educate him and help him. To think. To speak. To feel! For himself, if not for others. And is this line of thinking utopian? If it is utopian, then truly, “He will cometh to us, for the end of the age”. The world obliterates and replaces the landscape that we tread upon every day? I eat to prevent myself from degrading and decomposing into lighter carbohydrates. I also eat because I like it. Little did it take for me to realize that, that has been where the tears and sweat started. Right before our eyes, the battleground of everyday meals and field of monetized delicacies.

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The Universe in an Image

This article is basically about proving the power of theoretical proofs and proposals. Theoretical proposals are the basis of any practical explanation which is used to prove the theory itself and I would like to say something about how simple things we use in our daily life could not be made more sophisticated. Before I start, I would like to explain the basic math involved in this. Consider two empty squares drawn on a piece of paper and say we have three different colors. Now, by simple math, we can easily say that we have 32 ways of filling 3 colors into 2 boxes when repetition is allowed.

By simply extrapolating these calculations for n boxes and m colors, we have mn ways of filling m colors into n boxes. This is going to be the core idea of this hypothesis. This proposal is highly impossible and almost hypothetical. Today, digital photography is a very simple thing. But, the extreme power of a digital image is boundless. Whenever we see a printed photograph or a jpeg image on a website, we often wonder how they managed to get such a beautiful picture. What if I told you I have all the photographs and images found across the internet and also the ones which are not found in the internet.

Now, the idea. Consider a standard 1024*768 pixels image. This image will have 768432 pixels or boxes. Generally we use the RGB (RED, GREEN, BLUE) colour model to represent any colour. For example, (R,G,B)=(256,0,0) is red. So there are totally 256*256 colours combinations in the RGB system.

Now using the above mentioned mathematical calculation, the total number of possible ways of filling 256*256*256 colours in 1024*768 empty boxes is,

\[(256*256*256)(1024*768) = 16777216786432\]

This is just a basic permutation problem. The colours can be repeated in the pixels. So, each pixel should be filled with all the colours. That is a huge value. Using WOLFRAM ALPHA, we calculate this value to be 1.0564 *1098912781. The point that should be noted from the above value is that it has some value multiplied by 1098912781, which is a very huge value.

So, if I have the program to produce this many number of images, it will contain all the possible images that can be produced. It will have the Mona Lisa and it will even have the picture of Da Vinci painting the Mona Lisa. It will have your picture, the picture of this article, and it will even have the picture of you reading this article. Above all this, it will have the ultimate superimposed image of the universe photographed from the end of the universe (if there is one).

So, if this ultimate archive of images is produced, it will contain all the knowledge that is available and that will be available to mankind. It will have all proven theories and the theories that will be proven in the future, but in the form of an image. All we have to do is to search for the right image. Is it possible to create such an archive?

Let us do some mathematics to see the possibility of doing this mega project. A normal jpeg image ranges from 10 KB to 200 KB based on the variety of colors present in the image (since jpeg is a compression format).

And if the time taken for producing one such image is 50 microseconds (approx.) and so the total time taken to create the archive will be

\[(256*256*256)(1024*768) *(50 \text{ ms}) \approx 100 \text{ KB} \]

This is greater than the age of the universe. And the total size required for the archive considering average size of one image as 100 KB will be

\[(256*256*256)(1024*768) *(100 \text{ KB}) \]

That will require more than a trillion gigabytes.

This project if initiated using the current technologies, it will not be completed until the next big bang. And it even breaks the physical barrier for storing the images. One theory says that there are only 1080 ~ atoms in the universe. Even if there are more atoms than this value, it is still way less than the number of images. Even if each atom is considered as a memory element, it is still less than the amount of memory required for storing the images.

So, here comes the question of the possibility of storage. Is it really possible to store this many number of images when it breaks the physical barrier? So, let us conclude with a positive note. Archimedes said, “Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I shall move the world.” I say, “Give me enough processing speed, time and memory, I will show you how the universe looks.”

**Manikandan V**

**III ECE**

Wake Up and Smell The Coffee

During Daksh 2012, coffee lovers were treated to the finest filter coffee at a stall put up at Canopy. The strong, rich taste and aroma of ‘Degree Kaapi’ left coffee lovers craving for more.

On the 7th of March 2012, their prayers were answers as Chota Canteen saw the inauguration of another landmark—Kaapi Kudil. The aroma of fresh, hot coffee worked its magic as large crowds flocked to Chota Canteen to savour some coffee. The stall painted in Earthy hues with Warli paintings and ethnic motifs only added to the charm. It has the ideal ambience both for a quick coffee between breaks or for a laid back coffee, ideal for an evening walk or even while bunking classes. Also on their menu is a rather rejuvenating and refreshing Masala Chai, infused with the rich flavours of ginger and cardamom.

Owing to popular demand and sky rocketing business Kaapi Kudil has also recently introduced an entire range of snacks such as vegetarian rolls and nuggets ideal for a quick bite.

‘Kaapi Kudil’ literally meaning ‘Cofee Hut’ is an initiative by Concepto Beverages India Private Limited, a Chennai based firm whose aim is to provide high quality and authentic food and beverages at affordable prices in places with space constraints such as offices and college campuses.

**Tejas Kinger**

**I EIE**

International Conference on Thin Films and its Applications

A thin film is a layer of material ranging from fractions of a nanometer (monolayer) to several micrometers in thickness. Electronic semiconductor devices and optical coatings are the main applications benefiting from thin film construction.

That is all I knew about thin films prior to the conference. And to realize that it is just the tip of the iceberg was an eye opener to say the least. The three day conference conducted from the 15th to 17th of March saw speakers from various parts of the globe come together for a healthy exchange of ideas, information and enthusiasm. It kick started with an inaugural address by Padmashri Prof. K.L. Chopra, Former Director, IIT Kharagpur and Thin Film Laboratory, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India who spoke on “Science and Technology of Thin Films”. This was followed by lectures on various related topics which included applications of thin-film coatings in nano-medicine and plasma-medicine by Prof. Sunil Kumar, Founder & Director, Coatings Mantra Science and Technology Consulting, Australia. Dr. Lekshmi Kailas, Department of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom spoke on phase segregation and self-assembly behavior In ultrathin polymer films. Prof. Dr.A.K.Tyagi, Head, Surface and Nano Science Division Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam elaborated on nanostructured oxide / nitride coatings. These were just a few of the many highly intelligent researchers whose presentations looked like years of toil and perseverance. For an outsider like me, it was pretty much greek and latin, but what lesson I took home was this: Research is not easy but pretty much nothing in life is. While it always looks easy to the casual observer, only we know what the real picture is. The joy is not in pointing out how much effort went in, real happiness is in making it even bigger and proving the point that the best is always yet to come.

**Asma Afreen S A**

**III ECE**

**Manikandan V**

**III ECE**
The World Poetry Day which was celebrated on the 21st of March 2012 made us sit back and remember those wonderful poets whose works we’ve loved, respected and cherished. But there are many amongst us who are equally talented in the field. Team Imprint has put together a few poems written by budding poets in SASTRA. We hope you like them as much as we did.

**BURN THE MIDNIGHT OIL**

There is an all important exam tomorrow
For which many a notes she has to borrow
Despite the notes and despite the day’s turmoil
She decides to burn the midnight oil

She lives in a small house with a yard
Her mother rests in a graveyard
Till her drunkard father returns drunk after a day’s toil
She decides to burn the midnight oil

A lovely lad enters into her life
And promises to take her in as his lovely wife
Dreaming about the lovely life possible
She gleefully decides to burn the midnight oil

The lad who worked in an oil rig
Came over to her house one night.
As a sign of hope and a ray of a bright future,
He gave her a new oil lamp to burn the midnight oil

Before her father returned to her home
The lad would come and visit her at her home
With which she gleefully decides to burn the midnight oil

The stream of light from that oil lamp
Was a symbol of the only good to happen
In all her laborious and troubled life.

So with plenty of hopes every night she burnt the midnight oil.
The lad did not turn up that day
Miraculously her father vows to her that he quit drinking
and agrees to give her away whenever they decide and say.
Sunk in euphoria, she goes to burn the midnight oil.

Accidentally, the lamp fell down and shattered
She auspicated it as a bad omen looking at the glass pieces scattered.
She hotfooted to look out at the oil rig. On seeing everything to be fine
She cleaned up and took the old lamp to burn the midnight oil.

Before she could light the lamp, she was thrown back by a huge deafening sound
She hotfooted to see the rig after recovering from the sound
What she saw was that the whole rig was engulfed in flames
Urging her father to go and look, she prayed to god ad burnt the mid night oil

Little did she know that fate had unimaginably cruel and sinister plans for her
Little did she know that the flames from the rig had burnt her man

We are together, she and i,
Floating in the calm, drifting like wood,
and there will never be a better time than this,
this eternity within the nano.

But all it brought her was terrible news
They say the dawn was a sign of fresh hopes
But all it brought her was terrible news
If death to a single loved one is unbearable what to do for two?

They say the dawn was a sign of fresh hopes
But all it brought her was terrible news
If death to a single loved one is unbearable what to do for two?
She cried relentlessly staring at the lamps in which she burnt the midnight oil

The very night after weeping and crying
Till her eyes could cry no more,
In order to try and cry some more
She decided to burn the midnight oil

Fed up with life, cursing god, for burning
Her hope, her love, her family and her reason to live
With a heavy heart she prepares the lamp
One last time, to burn the midnight oil

She burnt the midnight oil seeking the same end
That her beloved father and her soul mate had met
The next morning there was nothing left of the house
But for the memories of a girl who, everyday, used to burn the midnight oil.

---

**SLEEP**

I struggle
with an uphill battle,
an almost lost war,
a fight for the ages
that will never
ever again
make defeat as sweet.

She makes me
feel at peace; she
is sometimes
a raging dervish but
she’s also
the quiet bower

in which i forget
every care.
She entices
with teasing flashes
and i give in,
the subdued warrior.

Images flash across,
of happier, gentler times
and a smile lights up
my care-worn face.

She mingle
with me in every thought
and draws out
the unconscious ones.

We are together,
and i,
floating in the calm,
drifting like wood,
and there will never
be a better time
than this,
this eternity within the nano.

Up! an imperial command
and my eyes open
and squint.

She is displeased;
there is never any time
together,
she complains
but i pacify her
and listen to the rants.

Chastised,
I wait for the next lulling monotone,
to run,
to drift,
to catapult,
to my love, bliss,
the promiser of Dreams,
Sleep.

---

**THE ROAD MOST TAKEN!**

Raging competitors, focused thoughts;
With each step bringing you closer to success;
Your head like a horse with blinders,
Where the road to be tread on
is the road most taken,
the road that spells GMAT,CAT,GRE!

The numerous coaching institutes,
Persevering for a better market;
With the need for practice, a ton
“We’ll lead you on”, says Princeton!
We’ll help you repay every dime
All you need is, be at Time!
We need to succeed, oh yes,
Look out for the IMS!

The CAT aspirants have their options in front,
their thirst for the B-schools overpowers
the choice for the better center!

With the race splitting the crowd into three,
The “rush hour”, the “optimus”, the “ideal”;
Realizing your interest in the nth moment
You fall into the “rush hour”;
“The better late than never” marks you into the “optimus class”
But, the smarter ones always start off ahead,
With over two years of effort, they bled
Giving themselves the tag of the “ideal”;

The exam spanning for an hour and thirty,
Quant, verbal, data interpretation and logics
mark their positions as hurdles on the road;
The institutes come up with their victory potions
A combination of smartness and sense;

They help you in this battle,
like an armed force that’s well equipped;
With an answer to every query;
Over 30 tests before the finale

Meeting your demands, an ear to your needs;
Which is why we turn to them
Despite knowing we’ll be squeezed like lime;
At The IMS, PRINCETON and TIME!

The lesson you learn in the end,
Is that the centers don’t make a difference;
An individual’s interest, love and thirst to success
Is all that matters,
To rule the road most taken;
With the institutes being a guide
to help you in your every stride;
All you need is those 4hours preparation
and some luck in every section;
To rise above all, and stand tall
for nothing is impossible,
If you choose to put your mind in it!

---

**COFFEE TABLE**

Vamsi Krishna B
III MCT

Aishwarya Hariharan
III CSE

Shwetha Srinivasan
1 ECE

Sponsored by Canopy
According to the Bible, God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.” But without a proper person to make use of these precious resources, they can’t be termed resources. Aristotle once said, “For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.”

Keeping this in mind, Dr. Vaidhyasubramaniam, the Dean – Planning and Development created a new concept called the “Entrepreneur’s Lab” in line with the typical Electronics and Automobile Labs. He wanted to impart managerial skills to the engineering students here. The present “Canopy Team” consists of seven members: Rakesh Kumar, Divya Balasubramanian, Sridhar Ganapathy, Jyothi Subramanian, Vivekananda, Ram Prakash, Ananth.

They are all final year students in our university. They gain first-hand knowledge in the field of management. A year after its commemoration as a food court, Canopy made its presence felt in every field. The services are picked to make the campus life as simple as possible. Canopy started an online venture, joining hands with GLOSS. The following are the services available at their online portal -> canopy.sastra.edu

**Fresh Juice Kiosk:**
Scorching heat begins... Is the Sun draining your body fluids? Your search for the best place to replenish your body ends here... Quench your thirst from the fresh juice kiosk at Canopy! It is way better than the other ones in the campus, for they make the extracts exclusively for you! They have something for everyone; a something that can’t be substituted with anything else.

**Hostel Delivery:**
Pinch yourself... Make sure, you are not dreaming! Ever imagined getting your favourite food delivered to your doorstep in the hostel? Canopy makes your dreams come true! Recharge your Canopy account and place your order... Within no time, the dish will get delivered to you. Recharge points are now open at all the hostels, making it easier to recharge once your account runs out of money!

**Cabs at Canopy:**
Reaching SASTRA isn’t a hardship anymore... Thanks to the cabs at canopy. They get you in and out of the campus at nominal fares! This service is running successfully and the team foresees an increased response from the students. The fleet of cars is selected so as to cater to the different needs of students.

**Canopy books and Mayjai:**
Get your favourite books at canopy online, powered by “uread.com” and get a free delivery for a purchase of Rs.100/- and above. The payment gateway is secured by “PayPal”.

**Laundry services:**
We, students, have just enough time to have chats late at night and slog away till the morning. Luckily, Canopy provides Laundry services! It might not be on time but its definitely worth waiting for! Clothes are washed in a hygienic environment.

**Careers at Canopy:**
There are various jobs available for students. Those interested may contact Team Canopy. Canopy, as a whole is a haven of opportunities... Grab yours at the right time to strike the right deal!

Mayjai is a website where artisans display their work with attractive prices and allows you to choose a gift article from the collection. The most striking feature is that it provides employment to the talent poor people. Canopy extends them a helping hand and acts as a stage to unleash their talents!

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We would even love to publish some of your works! So bring out the writer within you!