

Message from the Director

I am extremely happy that NIST e-news is publishing an Alumni Special. It is matter of great



pride that within a decade of the establishment of our Institute, our Alumni are a significant spread within the IT industry, academia and other core industries. The role and responsibilities of alumni towards the growth of the alma mater are too well known for me to reiterate. Very recently I attended the Pan IIT 2006 conference at Mumbai as alumni of IIT, Kanpur of the 1985 batch. It was gathering of 3000+ of alumni of all the six IITs and it was wonderful homecoming for all of us. While being privileged to be rubbing shoulders with

the likes of legendary IITians such as Arjun Malhotra (CEO, Headstrong), Ashank Desai (CEO, Mastek), Nandan Nilekani(CEO, Infosys), Partha Ghosh (Chairman, Boston Analytics), Rajendra Pawar (CEO, NIIT), Vijay Majajan (NGO), Arvind Kejriwal (Ramon Magsaysay Award), Manoj Parriker (ex-CM, Goa), one had to live with the pleasant thoughts and dreams of when one would find similar pleasures with NIST Alumni.

The Institute is happy to announce that the Alumni website will be launched on the Alumni Day - Feb 24th 2007, during the Waves program to be held on Feb 24th and 25th, 2007. The Alumni Day will be held every year on the first day of WAVES. The same will be intimated to alumni through our website. In addition, a permanent Alumni Desk will be maintained which will be a single point contact for extending all help to alumni. Institute memorabilia will also be available for sale on the website. I have been beseeched by numerous alumni who would like to do “something useful” for their alma mater and share their good fortune with economically disadvantaged students of Orissa. To facilitate such donations and help, the Institute is putting the necessary infrastructure and policies in place such as NIST Alumni Scholarship Awards which will be launched on Feb 24th, 2007.

I urge all alumni to make a special effort to be present for the Alumni Day – Feb 24th, 2007, at NIST campus. With Best Wishes,

February 15, 2007

Sangram Mudali

The Alumni website
(www.alumnist.in)
will be launched on - February 24, 2007

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February 24 - The Alumni Day
NISTians will celebrate the day every year

An Open Letter to NIST Alumni **Dr Ravi P Reddy, Deputy Director, NIST** Dear NISTians!

I do believe that I can still call you as NISTians. I want to make the most of this opportunity to write a formal letter to the NIST Alumni but so many images flood my mind that it is difficult to organize this flood into a linear stream of words on my word processor within the word limit prescribed by my Editor.



First of all, my new year greetings to you all. Wishing you a successful, wonder-filled, joyous new year 2007 where every step will lead you nearer to the fruition of your dreams, the fulfillment of your "heroic mission" in life, and the realization of your *dharma*.

Next, I want to tell each one of you how much I cherish every one of my meetings with an Alumnus of NIST. Whether it is on a railway station platform, or inside a train, or in some market place, or it could be just a warm email message, or a simple scrapbook entry on Orkut – every encounter leaves a warm glow inside my heart. For a few minutes, it helps me reconnect to the fundamental joys of being a teacher and brings back all those memories associated with that student (images of classes, presentations, hotels, strikes, ...). It gives me a big energy boost to get back to my studies and my chosen profession of teaching. Thank you guys for all your kind words of encouragement that I have received from all of you over the years.

One constant refrain from all Alumni is the absence of a good Alumni site for NIST. The NTCS gang is working on it on a high priority basis and you can expect a great Alumni portal very soon on *nist.edu*. We are also working on crating a dynamic site for *nist.edu*. As a first step, we've taken a dedicated server in the US & the S/W work has begun on these projects.

Most of you have settled down quite well in life (in terms of marriage, kids, cars, flats etc.) and I think it is high time you start thinking of the next important question – How can you contribute to Orissa? I leave you with that question to mull over. Do get back to me at ravipreddy@yahoo.com for any feedback. Best of luck in all your ventures and adventures!!

Message from the Placement Director

I would like to congratulate all the NIST alumni for doing exceptionally well in their respective organizations. I sincerely wish that all of the NIST alumni will climb up the career ladders to become the top CEOs, VPs of the organizations. There is nothing more that can gladden my heart to know that my students have reached top positions.



We have started the **NIST Alumni Scholarship Awards** this year with a planned corpus amount of Rs. 10 Lakh which will be kept in a Fixed Deposit. The interest earned from the FD will be used to give merit-cum-means scholarships of approximately Rs. 12000.00 per annum to eight deserving students, i.e., one for each year of alumni from 2000 batch to 2007 batch. Subsequently the number of scholarship receivers will increase as the corpus amount is enhanced. The first donation towards the corpus amount of Rs. 10.0 Lakh has been pledged by the three students selected by Microsoft from the batch of 2003-07, viz., Rakesh Parida (CSE), Mruntanjaya Dash (CSE) and Smita Samantaray (IT) who are jointly contributing a sum of Rs. 50,000.00. Those of you who are interested can give contributions (minimum of Rs. 2000.00) for the NIST Alumni Scholarship Awards. Donations to the Corpus fund will be suitably acknowledged by the Institute at various forums and special occasions. Please contact Dr. Partha S Mallick for details and procedure for receiving contributions. I wish all NIST Alumni the best in the New Year 2007.

February 15, 2007

National Institute of Science & Technology, Berhampur, 761008

Geetika Mudali

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Experience with the Alumni **Dr Arun K Padhy, Course Coordinator, B.Tech**

I have joined the institute on 13th September 1996. The orientation day was the first encounter with the students. From 1996 onwards as a teacher as well as the Hostel superintendent I have interacted with many students. Some of the personal experiences with our 1996 and 1997 batch students.



1996-This was my first year as a teacher. The first and foremost thing that I have learned how to handle the bright students those who are coming for their Engineering Degree. As they are the cream layer, in the class room the questions that you have to answer are really a challenging job. Not only that the job became tougher when you are showing the answer scripts. Some of the students literally fight for single or half mark even. In the Hostel to mix with them to have fun and encountering their problems was quite challenging in a different way. The most important thing that had happened and gave me the utmost satisfaction was when Ms. Anukampa Patnaik won the Chancellor Cup in Oriya debate. Even today, I am remembering the moment. I was inside the Sec-C class when Anukampa came to me to seek help as the topic was bit difficult. The topic was “Higher Education should be rendered in the own language (mother tongue)”. I suggested some of the quotations given by Madhu Babu and Gangadhar Meher and suggested her to deliver them in a nice way. After the class I went to the Senate Hall of Berhampur University which was the venue for the debate. I learned that Anukampa was the last to deliver the debate. When she saw me, she informed that all the quotations suggested were already being told by many speakers. Then I advised her not to repeat those things and suggested another quotation to conclude her speech. In fact that quotation was so meaningful that decided the prize in her favor as uttered by all the Judges. The Present Vice-Chancellor of Berhampur University was one among the judges. My other experience is with the cricket team. I feel personally that the best ever talents of all times were studded in that team of NIST. The pace attack spearheaded by Mr. Manoj Das and Mr. Sushrut Sinha was regarded the most fearsome attacking pair with the new ball. In the form of batsman, I feel the best among them is Avik Bramhachari, who is a lanky batsman and a wonderful fielder. The other class batsman’s are Mr. Amitav Mishra (who is definitely the best wicket keeper of NIST for all times), Mr. Bidhan Das. The other supporting hands in the team being provided by Mr. Anshuman Nayak, Mr. Akash Das. The team was such that every year four members of NIST team used to find place in the University team. During that period NIST has the honor of being the champion in the Table Tennis for three consecutive years setting the record in the University. The team comprised of Mr. Srikant Panda, Mr. Manoj Das, Mr. Avik Brahmachari and Mr. Akash Das.

I feel personally, that batch definitely deserves the salutation from all the NIST family by virtue of their dedication and loyalty towards their institute. I am quite proud to say that 1996 batch students now well placed and have shown the right kind of path for the later students.

Be a member of
NIST Alumni Association
through www.alumnist.in
 (The Website will be launched on February 24, 2007)

It is for NIST Alumni – our beloved students

Dr Partha S Mallick, Course Coordinator, M.Tech

I started teaching at NIST with 1997 batch, but I have had many interactions then with 1996ians. When I joined NIST, I was little bit depressed with this small college which is 14 kilometers away from the small town Berhampur. On the first day, I met some young, smart, intelligent, disciplined students having excellent communication skill. Later on I came to know that they were 1996ians. They were the first source of inspiration who made NIST attractive for me. During my 4 years of research work at Jadavpur University, I interacted with many students, I taught many students, but I never found such kind of disciplined students who were also having a positive attitude, and also polite. Many of them were my “*Bus Friends*”. Similar experience I have had with 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 batches. This 20 page magazine is not enough to write about all of them. Thinking of the past days I can still recollect many faces, names and events but again I have to remind myself about the page limit and thus control myself to write about them.



NIST has completed 10 Glorious Years, 7 B.Tech batches, 2 M.Tech batches, 2 MCA batches have already passed out. All NIST Alumni are the integral part of the NIST family. NIST has taken some good steps to bring them together. NIST Alumni website www.alumnist.in will be officially inaugurated on February 24, 2007 and, every year NIST will celebrate the day as Alumni Day. Registration for the Membership of the *NIST Alumni Association* will be opened on the same day, a permanent Alumni office will be at NIST, a magazine will be published every year for NIST Alumni, *NIST Alumni Scholarship Fund* is open for all NIST Alumni. We welcome more such ideas from Alumni. Wish you all success in everything you do. Feel free to contact me at psmallick@nist.edu, and/or 09937558168.

NIST Alumni Scholarship Fund

As part of its 10 Glorious Years Celebrations, the Institute has decided to create an enabling forum for Alumni to share in the growth of the Institute and enable it to scale even greater heights. The help of the Alumni in facilitating placement and career counseling has been extremely gratifying. The Institute has received a large number of requests from Alumni to create an endowment fund whose interest proceeds can be provided to meritorious students who are economically disadvantaged. Donations from Alumni are important not only from the financial inputs perspective, but also make Alumni important stakeholders in the Institute. This proposed *NIST Alumni Scholarship Fund* is an unparalleled venture in any Institute of Orissa and will set a benchmark in Institute-Alumni relationships. An initial endowment amount of Rs. 10.0 Lacs is proposed to be established from the donations received from Alumni to be known as the *NIST Alumni Scholarship Fund*. The interest received from this endowment, approximately, 8% per annum, will be utilized to provide monthly scholarships to deserving students on an annual basis who will be selected by a committee constituted for the purpose. Any amount from the Alumni, whether large or small, will be accepted. Initially, the interest earned from the endowment, will support 8 students who will be selected on a Merit-cum-Means criteria and the quantum of support will be Rs. 1000.00 per month for 10 months. The students may belong to any of the programs currently running on campus, i.e., B.Tech, M.Tech, MCA and MBA. Alumni are requested to donate individually or in batches for the scholarship fund. Individual endowments of an amount of Rs. 1.25 Lakhs and above can name the scholarship after themselves, parents or their loved ones.

For more details about the *NIST Alumni Scholarship Fund* and how to contribute please contact Dr. Partha S Mallick, Mobile: 09937558168 or at alumni@nist.edu.

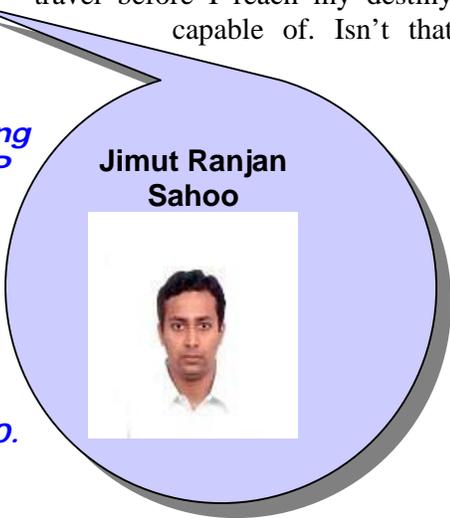
Jimut Ranjan Sahoo, 1998 - 2002 batch, EIE

The making of a professional.....A tribute to NIST

Congratulations NIST for completing 10 vibrant years. Days I can never forget, days which taught me to exist in this world, days which have given me the strength, and the will to fight for the recognition I deserve, thereby enabling me to create a mark in this society which recognizes only the successful. That's what my days at National Institute of Science & Technology have equipped me with.

Any school and its professors can only show you the path to excel, help you setting your goals, and provide options for your career. On the contrary in an engineering school, it's even tougher. You are taught to find your own path, set your own goals, be as much independent you can, take critical decisions firmly, and believe in yourself. That's how a PROFESSIONAL is born. NIST is very much determined in its goals towards creating such professionals who can take the world in their own direction. I can say that because I now feel it myself. Even if there are thousands of miles to travel before I reach my destiny but at least I know where to go, and what I am capable of. Isn't that great? Thanks to my professor's and thanks to NIST.

Jimut was a calm, intelligent and fun loving boy of 1998 batch. Before NXP semiconductor he worked with Adya Systems New Delhi, Philips Bangalore and proved himself the one of the best. His present address is Jimut Ranjan Sahoo, MOP/BLC/PLWLAN, NXP Semiconductors INDIA, #1, Murphy Rd, Millenia Tower 'D', Ulsoor, 560008, Bangalore, Tel: +91-80-4024 7500. (Direct), Internet: <http://www.nxp.com/>



Jimut Ranjan Sahoo

Santanu Kumar Behera, 2002-2006 Batch, ECE

My 3 Years at NIST

Happy New Year to all NISTians. I spent 3 years at NIST campus, many students call it a jail and teachers as jailor. But none of us realized then what the teachers are trying to do. In the real life, we came to know what actually they were trying to do good for us. Apart from that I would like to say ragging at NIST is negligible, it's like NIST is trying to eliminate the word from its dictionary. I enjoyed a lot at my NIST campus. Those 100 minutes classes, assignments, practical classes, discussions, passing free time in campus, gossiping with friends and SANKALP, WAVES where we are the master of all. This is the place where I was satisfied in quality and method of teaching. I would say every college should employ this policy to make a good college. In my life I will never forget my college, teachers.

----- Santanu, <santanu.nist.380@gmail.com>

Aruna Kumar Tripathy, 2000-2004 batch, CSE

My experiment with NIST discipline!

It was November 30th 2000 evening. As a fresher I was standing in a returning bus to hostel-4 from college with full of excitement and hurry. At our time there was a bit of ragging though in later it reduced a lot! I was hurrying to get down at hostel and to pack the things for a tour.



There was a cricket one-day international scheduled on December first between India and Zimbabwe. I had a friend who had an extra ticket. He invited me to go with him. I was crazy for cricket in those days. So it was a golden opportunity for me. As it was a Saturday, the study and class pressure was not much – that was one more opportunity for me to fulfill a dream – to be a part of the fanatic crowd.

But I had the only fear about Suresh sir, our beloved hostel superintendent. It was a dreadful thing that time, to go somewhere without his permission. When I was planning for cricket, he was the only stumbling block. But my friends encouraged me. Their point of debate was “everywhere it happens” so nothing much to worry. And finally with a brave heart and strong determination I left hostel at 6.35PM towards rail station.

Some train was there at 6.45PM, and my friend had told me to come to station directly. I went to station directly from hostel. By the time I reached there, the train was about to leave. I had no other option except to get into the general compartment. It was completely filled; even there was no space to stand. Anyway that unflinching desire was there to manage without a ticket and it was my first so-called WT journey! I tried to find him in the 2nd class compartment after *Balugan*. Till Bhubaneswar I searched all the sleeper class berths in futile. There was one more trouble to face-without the ticket to the stadium. Finally I decided to go to Cuttack and see if he came or not. I got down there at 11.30PM. I could not find him, neither was there a cell phone buzz to communicate to people on the fly. So there I was alone at Cuttack station. No friends... no known faces around! I directly went to Barabati stadium, by walking late at that night. There was no trace of security around the stadium, so I could easily get into the main gate. Later I found some people are going into the stadium through the top floor. (It was too risky and dangerous!). I did all those things that look quite risky today, but then the spirit was invincible.

Finally I got into the stadium at around morning 1-AM, stayed in the gallery roaming here and there. People were busy in decorating the gallery and pavilion. It was a dream come true for me in fact in a wrong time. I met a few guys like me who had no tickets yet they wanted to watch the match, Cricket buffs in fact! After a lots of struggle, plan and chances with a lot of courage (May not seem great now). I enjoyed the match without an entry ticket. Thanks to some of the kind hearted policemen (in fact, kindness in return of some money).

Finally India won closely in two wickets in an apparently easy match. Hamang Badani played a nice knock to be named as the Man-of-the-Match. I returned with a great satisfaction as my mission was completed successfully, little I knew that the real challenge was waiting for me!

I reached at Berhampur station at 10.30PM, directly returned to hostel. Than I came to know what discipline does mean at NIST! It was only my roommate who knew about my adventurous trip, but unfortunately Suresh sir came to know to make the first two weeks of December 2000 to be the most vulnerable time in NIST. It was pre-celebration time for WAVES-2000, a lot had happened; finally I was recognized among all the hotel-4 resident students for my adventures trip! Thanks to the rusticate notice that warned others not to repeat the same. Before the dust got settled, I learned the big lesson.

Later during my pre-final year I was coming with Susant sir in the last bus at 9 O'clock. I narrated the story to him (Susant sir often comes with Suresh sir to hostel so he knew the whole episode.) He replied me - “*Han yaar wo ladka bahut hi badmaas thaaa*”. I didn't know whether he was joking or he couldn't recognize me. But the reality was that Susant sir forgot that episode as usual like most of his forgetful deeds! What ever, tough it has been a long time, those memories are quite fresh. Nevertheless, those lessons were worth to cherish for a lifetime.

Prabira Kumar Samanta, MTech, 2003-2005 batch, ECE

My NIST Experience



Being the first batch students of a technical stream has its own implications. In spite of the initial butterflies, some of us decided to take the plunge and joined as the first batch MTechies at NIST. We had confidence that together with our alma mater, we'll be able to overcome all the hiccups by time. In fact, the initial days were quite exciting. Attending regular classes and practicals by our revered Sirs and some renowned visiting faculties and then conducting lab classes for the BE students, life was quite peachy. But slowly and steadily, reality started trickling in! New Course, newer courses of studies, newly established Technical University...it was quite some combination! Add to it, the work culture at NIST... To be very frank, none of us had an idea that life'd be so 'TOUGH' at NIST!! But then, as the saying goes, when the going gets tough, the tough gets going. Fortunately, we were a group which was very quick and willing to learn and adapt to the situations and were able to tide over all the odds successfully. The end result was quite amazing. We were among the top University rankers and achieved cent percent placement due to the persistent efforts of our respected Sirs. But more importantly, we were more conscious and confident about our responsibilities.

The best part of studying at NIST is being in an institute which has the willingness, ability and flexibility to think and implement 'out-of-box' ideas. So, when in all other institutes, the students are stacked to their Professors for their Project work, NIST thought otherwise and decided to send some of us to work at some of the prestigious organizations like CEERI, Pilani, IIT, Kharagpur, Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar and to some S/W organizations to work on the cutting edge technologies. The outcome was a win-win one for everybody. We got some very good and *out-of-imagination* exposure to the outside world; the organizations got to know about the kind of talent pool that NIST nurtures each year. We actually worked like the ambassadors of the brand called 'NIST'. The rest of us who stayed back at the Institute were able to get undivided attention of our Sirs and brought international laurels to NIST. The outcome of the experiment sharply came out in the open during our University presentation. Though we did not get the deserved recognition, the result of this exercise was quite something! Our next batch students even got the enviable chance of doing their Project work outside India.

It has been almost one year since we said *alvida* to our Institute, but the memories are still mint fresh. In fact, the bonding is getting even stronger. Director Sir's inspiring words, Reddy Sir and Panda Sir's patience and perseverance in taking marathon classes, especially during summer trainings, Partha Sir's care, guidance and encouragement, and the enthusiastic faculty members...everything about NIST was a lesson for life. NIST taught us many lessons for life, the most important lesson being how to survive in life. Finally, I'd sign off saying that life would have been incomplete without the '*NIST EXPERIENCE*'.

Prabir was a very confident and highly diligent student. He used to submit his assignments before date and with 100% accuracy. If one doesn't speak to him, it will be difficult to know about his depth of knowledge. He got job offer from Adya Systems, New Delhi and Philips, Bangalore, but opted for TCS Kolkata where he is doing extremely well.

Shrikant Panda, 1996-2000 batch, ECE**My Days at NIST**

My days at NIST started with my decision to join NIST for a graduation degree in Engineering. The kick off day was August 18, 1996. Everything was happening for the first time in my life, on that day, meeting lot of students, sharing dreams, seeing different people with different levels of confidence. My father was with me on that day for my counseling meeting. My father was very keen to see me as an engineer, working for a company, but I was very keen on learning these four years all new concepts in science & Technology, and how they are used to engineer different electronic items like TV, computer etc., as I had already read about Godel's Theorem, String theory, Turing Machine, Quarks, Electromagnetism. I was always thinking that these four years I will clear a lot of my doubts in science & engineering, by meeting learned professors and reading new books. So our classes started on Monday, as it was on Saturday that our counseling was held. Classes started and gradually it took pace, and then it was a regular routine to go to the college, (which was held in Berhampur University, on a rent basis, and after one year we moved to NIST's own campus, that you all are very familiar with) to do classes, with putting more and more confusion in the mind about the answers to my queries on science & technology.

Days passed by and I felt like I am in a wrong place where we move ahead only with equations and procedures without understanding and getting answers to the basic questions on science & technology. So I started to read books that I felt will lead to answers to my questions and NIST's library also managed to provide me a couple of them. Again days passed by and I got into the philosophical part of science & technology, without getting into the quantitative part, which I am supposed to do in engineering.

In this way 4 years passed and I was expecting to come to the real engineering part after understanding the philosophical part of it, but I could never come. After completion of my graduation at NIST, I thought of going into some higher institutions of knowledge, where I can satisfy myself with proper answers, but I could never do that because I had misunderstood life in the sense that gaining knowledge is a never ending process and one has to understand the properties of knowledge before craving for it. Knowledge comes in parts and we have also to learn to divide our questions into sub questions so that, this particular stage of life is not wasted in just for craving for knowledge but in understanding the sub-answer, which will lead to the next profound answer.

Then I joined NIST as a Lecturer, after my completion of BE in Electronics & Communication, taught Physics, Communication systems and had a very good learning on what qualities a good lecturer should have, and what it takes to be a good lecturer, though I could not be one of them in the short period of time I was at NIST. At NIST I had a variety of professional experiences that helped me to learn a lot of professional mannerisms. I started the NIST ROBOTICS CLUB, with due permission and guidance from the Director of NIST. This particularly helped me to learn to develop a team and move it towards a target. The team started to gain momentum and take participation in number of workshops and public shows for display of technology like Gopalpur Beach Festival, thus putting NIST in a new platform.

Reddy Sir was always a great teacher and Panda Sir, Padhi Sir were always there to discipline the students for a better career. I remember the days when myself and Partha sir worked together to start NIST's Technological activities at Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Park, IIT Kharagpur.

NIST has always tried to do the best to the careers of its students, though students do not realize it at the first hand. My love for NIST would always like to see NIST growing as an education brand all over India. I always wish to work with NIST in the near future in the field of education and technology to contribute to the growth of society.

Akansha Kumar, 2002-2006 Batch, EIE
NIST Robotics Club

I am Akansha Kumar, alumni of NIST, presently working as a Software Engineer in *Infosys Technologies Ltd.* I am the luckiest person who has experienced the advent of NIST Robotics club from grass root level to the present position. I would describe you all my experiences related to NIST Robotics Club in this article.



It all started when I was in 2nd Semester. Srikant Panda sir (now working in SAP Labs, Bangalore) was teaching us Physics. He had an offer related to a program in ETV. What we had to do is to collect science fictions and present those in the program. Out of the whole batch only three students opted to work with sir. The three were Kamlesh Parida (now in TCS), Saumitri Behera (now in Hexaware) and myself. We had worked for around 2 months.

But due to some reasons the program got cancelled. Then at that time there was a robotics competition scheduled to be held at NIT Rourkela (called "CONFLUENCE"). Srikant sir asked us to participate. At that time Saumitri had left our team. So now we were reduced to only two members. Two other people (Mukesh Panda (now doing Advanced Diploma in Embedded Systems at Pune University) and Tanmaya Kar (now working in TCS)) joined. So we four officially started the NIST Robotics Club. And for this beginning I gracefully thank Srikant Sir and our Director Sir.

The robotics event comprised of manual robot and we actually stood 3rd in the competition. This actually boosted us to participate in something big. And as you know the biggest robotics competition in the world is ROBOCON. Then there was a workshop organized in the college based on the use of LEGO KIT. In the workshop some IIT folks demonstrated us the LEGO KIT. From this day onwards automation was introduced in NIST Robotics Club. Then came the time where the ROBOCON, 2004 was round the corner and we four started preparing for that. You won't believe our first model for ROBOCON was made of iron beams. Each model was weighing 20Kilos. The LEGO kit was connected to the model to make those automated. Simultaneously many other workshops were conducted by the college

at different places where the NIST folks mentored and made everyone aware what Robotics is. Our college also conducted workshops on junk materials where junks like thermocol, syringes, and straws were used to make working models. The people who were really responsible for this are Suchilipi Madam, Srikant Sir and our Director Sir. The Robotics Club conducted workshops for school children based on junk, electronics and LEGO. In the workshops selected students



from different schools in Berhampur participated and they got exposure to real time robotics, application of junk, fundamentals of electronics. In ROBOCON, 2004 our club was ranked

6th in the competition and it is a great achievement for us. I really thank our Director Sir for the funding he gave because without funds we could not have afforded to take the step.

Then there was a robotics competition in IIT, Kanpur. Competing with IITians is always interesting. You won't believe around 20 students from our college participated in the event. And our college stood first in one of the events. I really thank the college for the sponsorship it gave. After the success of NIST Robotics Club at IIT Kanpur robotics was introduced in SANKALP (our annual technical event). Many colleges from different parts of India participated in the competition. But ultimately one of our college team won the event. The team that won comprised of Siva Behera (now in Satyam), Avinash Sarangi (now in Infosys) and Pragnya (now in BirlaSoft). At this time the Robotics Club strength had crossed 200. Then 10 members started to work for ROBOCON 2005 and it was our ultimate aim.



Now we started to use microcontrollers for automation. I was completely concentrating on the automation and electronics part. Because till that day we were using microcontrollers in theory but after that day we started to apply microcontroller knowledge in practical robotics. For this I really thank Bhawani Sir and Vivek Sir. At this time simultaneously we were conducting workshops on automation and the use of microcontrollers. Then we started to



introduce juniors into Robotics. In ROBOCON, 2005 the team performed well at MIT Pune and we learned a lot. Now the Robotics Club decided to virtually break into two parts, one would be solely concentrating on ROBOCON and other for participations in other different colleges. Now after ROBOCON 2005 we understood that we lacked technology. So we went to MUMBAI and bought latest motors and microcontrollers. So, we and our juniors (2003-

2007 batches) students solely worked for ROBOCON 2006. During ROBOCON 2006 Suchilipi Madam and Nihar Sir gave us a lot of encouragement and mentored us in the event. Now the NIST Robotics club is still developing and the juniors are successful in imparting knowledge to their juniors. The sole aim of NIST Robotics club is transfer of knowledge and till now we are successful in that. After leaving college I have heard that many juniors from First year are showing interest in robotics and I know that this enthusiasm will definitely take NIST Robotics club to a long way.

D. Anil Reddy, 2000-2004 batch, CSE

A Class Act

When I first heard about an ALUMNI issue, the first thing that came into my mind was what to write? NIST has so much to write about but my stint here would have been incomplete without rest of my batch mates. This is dedicated to the batch of 2000. There are some things in life, which just happens and ends up being history! But not my stay at NIST. We the class of 2000 were *A Class* in every aspect.



We survived and even excelled through one of the toughest times in industry. After 9/11 there was software plumb and an unpredictable IT future. There was a recession in everything that was associated with IT. But ultimately we had the last laugh. I worked for Satyam Computer Services Ltd for past 2 years and joining American Online (AOL) on 26th December 2006 as System Analyst.

Often tagged as the best batch of NIST by all faculty especially, Reddy sir. Some remember him as an outrageously talented scholar, a good orator, an accomplished performer and to sum it up all a walking encyclopedia. How can one forget Mr. Perfectionist M.Suresh, his lectures on Microcontroller I still remember. My sincere apology to those who missed out this time. The WAVES was something, which addressed everybody's woes from 1st year to final year, from staff to management, from performers to audience and most importantly to those stuck by cupid's arrows.

We all are desperate to get away from Berhampur, but I certainly wanted to move into a big city. Paradoxically most NISTians spend their stay at NIST hating Berhampur. Most of us pass our student life either cursing the institution or by simply doing nothing (This luxury is denied by BPUT, they are now the badmouth of students). Students never realize the importance of an institution, till they are nearing completion of studentship. My sincere advice to them is **“Be Passionate and Focused in whatever you do”**.

There are people who still shrug to be called as Alumni and still feel the tempo rising up their veins and this was evident in last ALUMNI meet in B'lore. I wish this type of events be held regularly and with prior notices.

Combined aggression of the students and management is responsible for NISTs' phenomenal success both in terms of quality education and outstanding campus recruitment scenario catalyzed by current IT boom. NIST is receiving widespread recognition from industry, professional bodies and academic circles. I hope this trend will continue in years to come. Every successful organizational endeavor has to be backed up by a strong management and a dedicated staff. Hearty congratulations to Sri Mudali and good speed. Regards!



Those early days when we had a half constructed building which we called as our classroom and half of our attention being on the water tickling from the ceiling - it was fun. I will always remember the encouragement my teachers gave me.

--- Reshma Rout, Infosys, Bangalore, (BTech, 1996 -2000 batch)

Susanta Kumar Patro, 2000 - 2004 batch, EIE

It is all about me at NIST

I am **Susanta Kumar Patro**, Passed out in 2004 from Electronics and Instrumentation branch. I remember each and every moment that I was spending in my college. The teachers, environment, library and the scope I had got at NIST – is the only key to my present position. I am completely from a middle class family. I could manage my 4 years there with some help from NIST like receiving economic hardship scholarship, Teaching Assistance ship in my last two semesters that was a great help for me. I strongly believe NIST is the best college in terms of study, motivation, inspiration as well as extra curricular activities. I enjoyed each and every of my classes at NIST, though I was not so good as a student. But my hardwork, sincere effort helped me a lot to move forward. I remember mostly Panda sir, Partha Mallik sir, Abhro sir, G.V Kiran sir and others. I am proud to be a NISTian.



Initially, I was not at all happy joining NIST. In fact I was forced to join. But after joining, I got the chance to change my life. I was always thinking of all of my friends who joined at different RECs. But after joining NIST, I didn't find much difference between me and them. I remember Sankalp 2004 which we had started, that gave an inspiration to all the juniors as well as Teachers too. Now I am hearing so many things about college, where the teachers from other college are always comparing with NIST telling their students to do something like Sankalp and other technical events in their college. I remember all of my classmates who always used to encourage me for not asking any doubts in class to make the class shorter. Bunking was a *masti* many times for us. Once again Waves is really unforgettable. Now I am missing that a lot. The study environment was very good and all the teachers were co-operative. One of my best event I can still remember, when I was absent only for 3 days (had gone for Paper Presentation) leaving classes, I can recollect the words from Partha sir what I heard after my arrival, Partha sir scolded me, "I did not find you in the last two classes, where were you? Classes are always for students, I never expect it from you". I still remember his affection. Believe me, after that I never missed any class.

I participated in NSS, Sankalp, ISTE activities etc. Sometimes I spent full day in the library. I had some problems in my mess which compelled me to study in library. Once I went to NIT, Jamshedpur from college to present a paper. Then that was my first visit out of Orissa. I presented the paper but did not get any prize. But that presentation gave me a lot of confidence what is helping still now. I always feel how does NIST help in developing career.

Finally, I am thankful to all NISTians for all that were done for me. With Best Regards.
Susanta Kumar Patro Simulation Engineer Embedded Systems and Software, Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (EmSyS) #497, SDB 1, Plot No. 25-30, EPIP 1st Phase Industrial Area, Whitefield, Bangalore 560 066.

The working environment in NIST has taught us how to work in the industry which is becoming very productive when I am now really in an Industry. The project in which I have been put up is involving many challenging roles.

--- Samikhya Dash, IBM, Kolkata(M.Tech, ECE, 2003-2005 batch)

Prabal Saha, 2001-2005 batch, ECE**Valedictory**

It was really a tough issue for me when I was asked to pen down certain lines about my journey during the past four years at NIST. I can now understand how challenging it is to write a coherent passage of a whimsical life. Still I am trying to put forward some anecdotes to numb your noses.

My journey into the NIST curriculum started with some interesting experiences at HOSTEL-4. Although small among its breed but it was the most action packed hostel. I am sure it can stand with its head up with pride and dignity in all respect maybe studies ,”tor-phore”, sports, *et al.* Hostel-4 really was over-dynamic in all respects. I can still remember the “water-fight” drill we used to have post dinner between the ground floor and the first floor. Buckets of water were targeted to the ground floor guys just out of nothing and in return we used to receive some splashes in return.

Food department was something we didn’t emphasize much as any sort of queries were replaced with some more horrible food. But I must say that if you can sustain then you will have absolutely no problem where ever you stay, no matter whatever you eat.

I was a bit disciplined in the first semester (as everybody does) but that graph continued to decline as semesters increased. The “*Gumtis*” became a sort of open air lecture halls. More people outside than inside for certain classes. Intellectual words, stories of unattended love, mimicry of faculties and steps to change the system were some hot topics. But the same mob suddenly ran into frenzy when someone spots “Padhy sir” at a distance. That was the most tickling incident I still cherish.

I truly enjoyed the classes of most of the faculties of ECE most notably Suresh sir, Partha sir, Anisur sir. I still remember the quote by Suresh sir when I got nominated for attendance shortage “*Ghar ja , Papa ko bula ke la*”. That was a really an eye-opener for me and later on I tried hard not to nominate myself. BE project was another big battle. But I am truly grateful to Partha Sir, for all the meaningful advice he provided me and Arnab for the final completion of it. Waves-2005 was also a major hit in our year with DJ rocking the floor.

I think I shouldn’t drag any further. We more or less experience the same pinches and accolades in these four years graduating ourselves. But I feel that this elastic experience will always come handy when some needs to customize for the real challenges of life.

I would like to end the note by thanking the entire NIST family for the current endeavors and also wishing a good luck for all young NISTians. **Prabal. You can always reach me at Prabal.Saha@cognizant.com.**

NIST as a college has got a very good reputation in TCS. It's been rated as an "A" category college. A couple of month back I had forwarded some 15 CVs of my batchmates and juniors and fortunately all of them got calls for the off-campus recruitment process. So that proves the reputation of the college. And the funny thing is that whenever I speak to any HR person about my college they don't ask for the complete expansion of NIST (as all of them are pretty much aware of it). --- **Pratik Kumar Patra. TCS, Mumbai, 1997-2001 batch**

Sivanand Panigrahi, 2000-2004 batch, ECE**It's about my NIST days**

Hope everything is going fine there. NIST is popular all over Orissa and abroad. Believe me, NISTians are equally great students like any other top institute. I am really privileged by the opportunity to write about NIST. I will try my 100% to make it short. I entered NIST like other students. During my sophomore years I was cursing my *alma mater* like any one else for every fault of mine. I was just hesitant to accept my fault. We always had to be under pressure, which made us comfortable to deal with serious situations. And about food, I would say, hostel food comes with an OK certificate. I didn't bother much because, there are many eat outs around the city, and we were always looking for an opportunity. Away from Orissa, I always miss Oriya food. We were some how able to organize "fashion parade" for two consecutive years. I still remember, for one 'winter round' we had to borrow blazers from students at the last moment. If I remember correctly, we are the first batch, who made faculties walk the ramp on a notorious Hindi track. I was really delighted when our Director Sangram Mudali congratulated for the success of the show, and appreciated our work. About courses, I would say NIST is the number #1. Be it microprocessor by M. Suresh Sir or control system by B.K Dash Sir or electronic circuit by Ajit Panda Sir or C-programming (with that foo-bar and hello world) by Dr. Reddy Sir or EMT by Ghatak Sir. It would be helpful for us if we could get any electronic copy of those lectures. Because we get to know the importance of those classes after completion of our degree. Kiran Sir was very helpful and co-operative while our BE project, without which we could not have finished our project. I was the guy to sit in DC meeting, very nervous to open my mouth and speak. I would say those four years equipped us to face all challenges in our professional life. "Never underestimate your true self. We are talented in many ways." Thanking you all. **Shivanand.**

Deepak Poddar, 2001-2005 batch, IT**About my College**

Really felt good that in addition to the every fortnight e-news of NIST, Partha Sir is going to publish this Alumni one. First of all, I will start of with Company "Polaris Softwares Lab", I got through the company being as a part of NIST. I have been promoted twice, normal Software Trainee to Technology Engineer and presently being promoted to System Engineer. Time duration that I took may be One and half year, and In order to prove my dexterity in the Company, at a every point of time I always use to go back my NIST days. As those were the days, where I learnt confidence, strength in technology, presentation skills, cultural leadership and many more, in spite of the fact that many do's and don'ts were part of our academic curriculum. I would always be thankful to Rehman sir, Reddy sir and Ajit Panda sir for whatever they have made us to learn, Specially Panda Sir for the efforts he gave for Placement of our Batch. Rest life is fine. "Wishing that NIST should always prove its presence with immense knowledge to Students in this Competitive World" Cheers.....
Deepak Poddar Polaris Softwares Lab SDF2/35, SEEPZ, MUMBAI Desk : +91-22-67068400, Ext - 614 MOB : +91-9833040292, Email: deepak.poddar@polaris.co.in

Even today I remember that Geetika Mam had told me that I would never get a job. Well I felt very bad that day but now I realize why she told me. Well it was for that I have been giving my best and to prove her wrong. I did all that I could, and am here in a very reputed Company Slash Support India Pvt. Ltd. as a network consultant for Netgear Inc.

-- Akash Das, ECE, Slash Support India Pvt. Ltd.(1996-2000 batch)

Sangram Patnaik, 2000 - 2004 Batch, EIE**A Tribute to All**

I am more than delighted to know the spread of publications from NIST. Its' always fascinating to read those.

It's very kind of you to have thought of featuring my writing in the magazine. But my fantabulous experience in NIST is beyond any conveyable medium. However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who are responsible for me sitting pretty today.

Its today I realize the significant contribution of the NIST family, which has been instrumental in my success. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone there, the Professors, the Lecturers, the Lab Assistants, the Canteen Staff, the Bus Drivers and Helpers, the Librarian, the Administration Department and of course, my NIST student community. Cherished will be the forty-seven months I spent on Palur Hills, more importantly, cherished will be the people who were so kind in extending their help to a boy to make him stand on his feet. Your's Truly, **Sangram, Sangram_Patnaik@infosys.com**>

Arabinda Jena 2001-2005 Batch, IT**A Proposal**

Actually after getting into Accenture, I was thinking that we, the NIST family have grown up considerably and our Alumni are spread across the globe now. So isn't it the right time to start doing something to make the family come together and share more memories and experiences?

I was thinking about a group called *NIST Alumni Association*. We have already 6 batches and there are also MCA and M.Tech students passing out every year. The group will be monitored by the college itself and will also have a functioning body. Lot of my friends are hosting their own sites and are posting the photos and experiences. We should have some central database about our origin and we should help growing our alma mater. The objective of such an organisation, as I have thought will be as follows 1. To contribute in a good manner to the growth of NIST. 2. To contribute in the growth of educational experience in NIST. 3. To bring all the NIST family under one umbrella. 4. The Alumni members can give some membership fee so that it can be used for the infrastructure development (though may be small). It is my long dream to make a good and beautiful welcome gate at our college. The group can arrange yearly conferences so that the students can get the live experience and advices from their seniors. Also they can guide them in their project related issues. The meetings can be arranged at our campus or any suitable place in some vacation time so that many of the working guys can attend the same. Finally it will be a great experience for all of us that we are still in NIST family and that the family cares for us. Hope you already have similar ideas and will think about the matter. Thanking You, Yours Faithfully, **Aurabinda Jena, Accenture, Mumai, email: aurabinda.jena@accenture.com**

When I had joined in the first year I was totally unsure of where I would land up after I completed my engineering. But now when I think in retrospect about my past days in college, I realize that it was NIST and all the people there who were instrumental in shaping up my career the way it is today. You would be surprised to know, a few months back before I joined Cognizant I had offers in hand of Infosys, Wipro, and Igate as well. This was not what I had thought of when I was in college. And when I analyze now about what caused this, there is only one answer to this, it is the kind of professional culture that was injected into us in college.

--- Arup Samant Roy, CTS, Chennai, IT, !999-2003 batch

Arun K Tripathy 2000-2004 batch, CSE
My Alma Mater

Gone are those years,
 When I struggled to rise above my horizon,
 Gone are those months,
 When I fought battles to become a techie,
 Gone are those days,
 That filled me with vigor and vibrancy,
 Gone are those moments,
 That lifted me above the sea level of my self-confidence,
 And now, a successful today is there,
 That is lightened through the years that I have passed...
 Still a long way to go...
 To stand still against the flow of time,
 But When I get tired,
 You!!! The eternal torchbearer of Knowledge,
 Show me the path to follow...
 You!!! My Alma Mater - NIST.

Arun likes playing volley ball very much. He used to play volleyball almost every evening at NIST campus with staff and faculty members. He also likes writing poems. Still NISTians remember his Oriya poem in Waves. He is working now with Jatayuu Software, Bangalore. His present address: Aruna Kumar Tripathy, Software Engineer (R&D).Jataayu Software (P) Ltd.#4, 12th KM, Bellary Road,pp. Jakkur Flying Club, Jakkur,Bangalore-64 Ph:080-28563733

It is always inspiring to us...



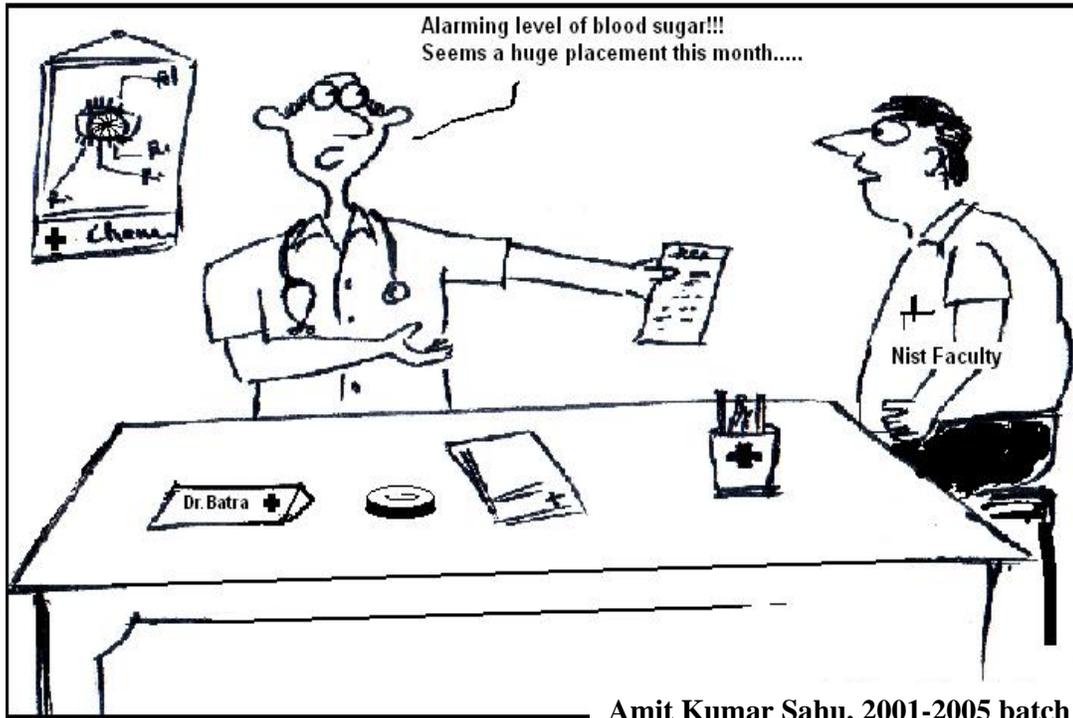
- The *Best Performance Award* of **Ashwin Agrawal** at Jataayu Software Ltd., Bangalore in the year 2003. Ashwin Agrawal was a student of 1997-2001 batch. Later on he joined

in LG MSL (Mobile Software Development Lab).Ashwin's hobby was "C-Programming".

- The 3rd Prize won by **Lipsa Naik**, of 2001-2005 batch, EIE for her excellent performance in training of Wipro Technology, Bangalore.

The IT industry needs lot of Engineers for the above segment with the following qualities: 1. Analytical mind. 2. Quick reflexes. 3. Certifications like MCSE, CCNA, RHCE, OCP, etc. 4. Excellent communication skills. 5. Willingness to work on client timings and Indian Holidays. All the interaction happens with administrators or users abroad hence excellent communication skills is highly essential in this line of business. Fresh Engineers will be trained in core areas of expertise initially and will be under continuous training henceforth on the complexities of client networks. --- Amar Prusty, ECE, 1997-2001 Batch

Cartoon



Amit Kumar Sahu, 2001-2005 batch

Alumni who worked hard for NISTe-News

NISTe-News remembers the contribution of its student representatives who have put their continuous effort for a long period for the successful publication of NISTe-News. NISTe-News is going to celebrate its 5th year anniversary next month. The entire *enews* team is grateful to all of you. Here is the list of Alumni who worked hard to send the *enews* to the readers desk every month.

Balakrishna Gupta(B.Tech, 1999 Batch), Aruna Kr Tripathy(B.Tech, 2000 Batch), Manoranjan Jena(B.Tech, 2000 Batch), Bijoy Shekhar Shroff(B.Tech, 2000 Batch), Sunita Panigrahi(B.Tech, 2000 Batch), Sudhansu Sekhar Sadangi(MCA, First batch), Vivekananda Dora(B.Tech, 2001 Batch), Rohan Gupta(B.Tech, 2000 Batch), Padmalina Kabita(B.Tech, 2001 batch), Priyadarshini Panda(B.Tech, 2001 batch), Preeta Mohanty(B.Tech, 2002 Batch).

I would like to congratulate the whole NIST family for carrying out its social responsibilities so well, be it training young people in job oriented courses or doing some relief work orThe list is really endless and as diverse as NIST is in itself as an organization. I am really proud to be an Alumni of such an esteemed organization. Once again many congratulations for adding the picturesque auditorium to its kitty. Waiting for the hostels to start functioning in the campus. In the deep corner of my heart, there is always a dream to contribute to the growth of NIST be it in anyway and do the teaching at some later part of my carrier.

---- Mahesh Sahu, 1999-2003 Batch

You are always with us...

Words cannot convey the sorrow of the fateful days of August 20, 2002 and January 17, 2005 when we lost our beloved students and friends Sri Siba Sankar Bishoi and Sri Asim Abinash Panda in two separate tragic accidents. Time stands still in grief and in poignant silence we remain. To commemorate the memories of our dear departed students, a scholarship of Rs. 10,000.00 in the name of Siba Sankar Bishoi is awarded each year to an economically disadvantaged student and a 4 College Cricket Tournament with a Trophy is held every year in the memory of Asim Abinash Panda.

Siba Sankar Bishoi(2001-2005Batch)



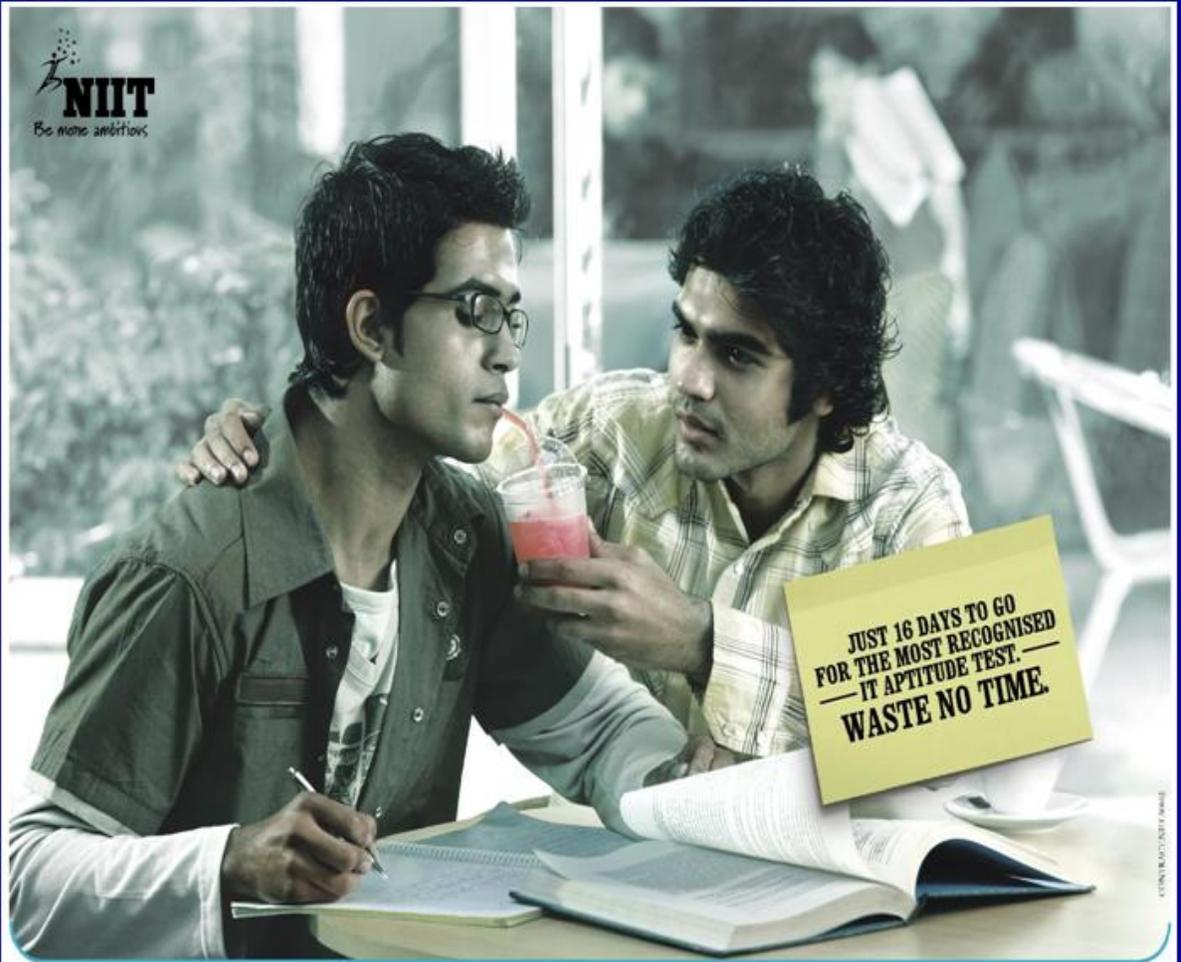
Asim Abinash Panda(2001-2005Batch)



The 1st NIST Alumni Career Counselling Services (NACCS)

We have started the NIST Alumni Career Counselling Services in May 2002. This is a voluntary service offered by the Alumni of NIST.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Batch</i>	<i>Email ID</i>	<i>Company/Institute</i>
1. Ashwin Agrawal (CS)	1997	ashwinagrawal@hotmail.com	Jataayu Software, Bangalore
2. Uzma Naz Rahim (ECE)	1996	urahim@cisco.com	Infosys, Bangalore
3. Reshma Rout (CS)	1996	reshma_rout@infy.com	Infosys, Bangalore
4. Aasish Behera (ELE)	1997	aasishbe@in.ibm.com	IBM, Pune
5. Rohitav Samanta (ELE)	1996	rohitav_samanta@rediffmail.com	Convsys, Chennai
6. GV Srichandan (ECE)	1996	srichandangv@rediffmail.com	University of Texas, Arlington, USA
7. Anshuman Panigrahy (ELE)	1996	anshuman_9@rediffmail.com	MBA, XIMB
8. Lenin Sahoo (ECE)	1996	leninsahoo@yahoo.com	TCS, New Delhi
9. Ritesh K. Agrawal (CS)	1997	riteshag@in.ibm.com	IBM, Bangalore
10. Manas Ranjan Das (ECE)	1996	ranjan_manas@yahoo.com	NTCS, BAM
11. Bapi Dash (ECE)	1997	bapi_dash@yahoo.com	Entrepreneur
12. Sumeet Ghosh (CS)	1997	g_sumeet_in@hotmail.com	Higher Studies
13. Ashutosh Gupta (CS)	1997	ashutosh_gupta@rediffmail.com	NTCS, BAM
14. Gargi Pattnayak (ECE)	1997	me_gargi@yahoo.com	TCS, Hyderabad
15. Smruti K Mohapatra (CS)	1997	smrutimo@in.ibm.com	IBM, Pune
16. Manoj K. Agrawal (CS)	1997	manojagr@in.ibm.com	IBM, Pune
17. Swastik Mishra (CS)	1997	swas555@yahoo.com	Higher Studies
18. Manoranjan Mishra (CS)	1996	mishra_mano@yahoo.com	Reisys, Washington DC, USA
19. Rakesh Kumar Jena (CS)	1996	rakeshjena@yahoo.com	Polaris Software, Chennai
20. Asma Ara (ECE)	1996	asma_ara@yahoo.com	Dexcel Electronics, Bangalore
21. Pragnjyajeet Monhanty (ECE)	1996	prag_mohanty@rediffmail.com	Satyam, BBSR
22. Y. Venkateswarlu (CS)	1996	yrajesh50@yahoo.com	Reisys, Washington DC, USA



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