

BITSAA

International



Annual Report 2009

BITS Pilani Alumni Association (BITSAA)
www.bitsaa.org

BITSAA Vision

- Maximize the potential of BITSians and BITS Pilani

BITSAA Mission

- Make BITSAA the best and most well networked alumni community in the world and positively enhance your professional and personal lives.
- Give back to BITS Pilani to strengthen the infrastructure, student exposure and education quality.

Chairman's Message



Dear Fellow BITSian,

I welcome you to BITSAA International! I am excited to usher in 2010 as we build on the Alumni Association's accomplishments of the past year.

One of BITSAA International's goals is to help you stay connected with other members and with BITS Pilani, our alma mater. I hope BITSAA International serves as a catalyst in furthering your lifelong learning, professional development, and personal enjoyment. I expect a connection with BITS, regardless of the physical distance between you and your campus, is rewarding. I encourage you to bring in alumni who are left out of the network, and I welcome new ideas for strengthening

our association.

By way of giving back to BITS, the alumni association with your support is engaged in a wide range of activities and fundraising aimed toward enhancing the quality of BITS education, its faculty, its infrastructure, its student body, affordability of BITS education to the economically disadvantaged, and ultimately the BITS Pilani brand. I hope you will be inspired to participate in one or more of these worthy initiatives. Last year, we were just shy of \$100,000 in fund raising, which supported the Acyut Robotics project, Kris Ramachandran Faculty Excellence Award, and the BITS Pilani Auditorium audio system – are you listening? Next year's goal is to more than double our fundraising by raising Rs 1 crore (\$225K)!

BITSAA International is a volunteer organization. I am proud of the association's leadership team comprising highly talented BITSians. I am continually surprised by their effort, enthusiasm, and dedication. Over time, this pantheon of leaders needs to be replaced. The weary leaders would like to pass the baton to rejuvenate the association with new ideas, new vision, and new beginnings!

With Best Wishes,
Dr. SP Kothari
Chairman of Trustees, BITSAA International

Vice Chancellor's message



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MESSAGE

BITSAA International team has been very actively involved in devising schemes which help BITSians in all its campuses. BITS is proud of its alumni who have performed exceedingly well and are successful in their professions. Higher education in India is undergoing a tremendous growth and there are huge opportunities in this area. The globalization and advances in ICT are impacting the methods of knowledge creation and delivery which are important functions of any higher education institution. Global exchanges of scholars is a must in this era.

The efforts of BITSAA International in initiating various schemes such as Project Embryo, Travel Grants and other Scholarships, Data base creation of BITSians in Entrepreneurship & Academia, Promoting Entrepreneurship amongst BITS students, Supporting BITS Team in RoboGames, Promoting BITS Brand, etc. are unique and highly praiseworthy.

BITS Vision 2020 : Mission 2012 project envisages a very important role of alumni. BITS plans to become a leading university in the world known for its excellence in teaching, research and quality education and for this purpose Workshops, Town Hall meetings and brain storming sessions have already been held in all the campuses of BITS. Various Task forces have been set up to workout strategic details dealing with Academic Programs and Pedagogy, Research & Consultancy, Campus Life, University Administration, People, and Infrastructure & Facilities. The Chancellor, Dr. Kumar Mangalam Birla is fully supporting this effort. BITSAA International with very active and passionate leadership can contribute significantly in this project by vigorously pursuing its ongoing initiatives and launching global exchange programs.

It is with great pleasure that I am addressing you through the BITSAA International's Annual Report for 2009. I wish the Team a great success and assure full support to its various unique initiatives.


L.K. Maheshwari



Dr. L K Maheshwari, Vice
Chancellor, BITS Pilani

BITSAA Initiatives – what we do

To realize our vision of “*Maximize the potential of BITSians and BITS Pilani*”, BITSAA International’s initiatives are geared towards Students, Alumni, Education at BITS campuses and the BITS Pilani Brand. Read along as we walk you through the different activities BITSAA International undertook in 2009 to maximize the potential of the BITSian community.

Andhra Board Topper at BITS, Pilani

Eenadu, a leading Telugu newspaper reported on the 2nd of July 2009 that Mr. Nagesh from Adilabad had scored 993/1000, topping the Andhra Board Higher Secondary Examinations for the year 2009 and also secured direct admission to his dream university - BITS Pilani. The paper had further reported that Nagesh came from an economically disadvantaged family and that he would not be able to afford education at BITS.



Nagesh, Andhra State Board Topper. BITS Pilani’s 1975-1980 batch and Nirmaan’s quick action on providing financial support enabled Nagesh to join BITS Pilani

As soon as he saw the news came, Rakesh Anugula, BITSAA International’s Director of Campus Relations, got in touch with Nagesh and assured him that his education at BITS Pilani would not suffer due to his economic conditions. Based on Rakesh’s input, Eashwar Koneru from BITSAA (1975-80 batch) and Mayur Patnala, a BITSian and Vice President of Nirmaan swung into action and assured support to Nagesh.

BITSAA ‘75-’80 and Nirmaan together helped Nagesh join BITS by contributing towards the admission fee as well as the first semester tuition fee. They also connected Nagesh to the Lanco Foundation which has agreed to sponsor the rest of his education at BITS. The initiative taken by BITSAA and Nirmaan for Nagesh’s education goes out to show that when a mission is taken up with passion, there are no dreams too large and no frontiers beyond reach.

The Anitha Ashokan initiative

In May 2009, Anitha Ashokan a 2004 batch BITSian from the Goa campus was diagnosed with Balo, a rare case of multiple sclerosis. Anitha was hospitalized and was undergoing critical care treatment, when the news of her illness was brought into the notice of BITSAA. BITSAA International took up the case of helping Anitha and a SWAT team led by Shwetha Kailash (‘04) was formed. This team was in constant touch with Anitha’s family and received regular updates on her progress. BITSAA International decided to help Anitha’s family monetarily, by raising funds and non-monetarily, by reducing her overall medical expenses. BITSAA reached out to the BITSian fraternity and the target fundraising amount of Rs 5lakhs was reached within 3 days. Over 220 donors from all over the world donated and an amount of \$14721 (7 lakhs) was raised for Anitha. A blog has been set up on the bitsaa.org portal which is regularly updated with funding details, Anitha’s medical condition, the donors list and the overwhelming comments left by donors. Anitha’s family has used the funds donated by BITSians to settle her outstanding medical bills. Her family expresses their heartfelt thanks to the alumni network for their contribution, the effort that they had put and for the support and prayers(see textbox below)

Anitha’s case struck a chord with BITSians all over the world and they offered their unwavering support, love and prayers throughout this campaign. Time and again, initiatives like this showcase the strong BITSian spirit and the passion to help a fellow BITSian in need. We BITSAA International bow to the persistent support of our alumni network for making this initiative a grand success and giving Anitha’s family a helping hand in their hour of a crisis.



"..The moral support and assistance given by all of you give us the strength to fight out and save Anitha from the clutches of this disease. Above all, with your kind wishes, love and support we sincerely hope that the Almighty will listen to all your prayers and bless her with speedy recovery.."

Anand Ashokan – Anitha's brother

The Class of '71 Fundraiser

The class of '71 will be getting together for a reunion at Pilani in November, 2009. In the early stages of planning and discussions, the batch felt that the key ingredient of the celebrations should be the fulfillment of their social responsibility to give back a little for the benefit of future generations that will be passing through the portals of our great institution. This is when the class of '71 turned to BITSAA International to pull it off.

The teams within BITSAA International got engaged in this campaign- from choosing a project on campus to fund, to the rapid disbursement of the money that was raised in India and the US. The campaign raised over Rs.10.3 Lakhs and from start to finish, the effort took less than 8 weeks. The seamless way in which people of various BITSian vintages (from the Class of '64 to the Class of 2010!) dispersed across the world worked together was striking. The end result -- the BITS Pilani Auditorium Audio System got a much-needed facelift thanks to the efforts of the Class of '71. Did you hear that clearly?

Bits2Marathon

Bits2Marathon is a group for fellow BITSians and alumni to help budding runners achieve their dream of running a Marathon (42.195km). The initiative was started as a Googlegroup by three BITSians, who are also recreational runners, with the main aim of promoting running within the BITSian community and to use it as a means to stay connected with friends. The group is organizing its first event, a global run - "BITS World 5K Run" on the 6th of December to heighten activity, as well as to increase the network on the Bits2Marathon community.

BITSAA International helped BITS2Marathon by providing infrastructure in the form of a homepage on www.bitsaa.org and also provided credibility and support to the group through the BITSAA brand name. The group will also benefit by getting publicity for the upcoming event through BITSAA newsletters and posters, mailed to members registered with bitsaa.org.

Run along BITSians -- its all for a worthy cause !!

BITS Pilani at the Robo Games

This summer, two BITSian teams (Team Acyut and Automized Minds) became the first-ever Indian teams to win medals at Robo games, held at San Francisco. The teams brought back one silver and two bronze medals to Pilani.

This success was made possible by the unwavering support of BITS Alumni around the world who contributed more than \$30,000 for team ACYUT. BITSAA helped the students with the raising of funds for developments, sourcing materials and parts, logistics and media coverage.

To celebrate the medals, BITSAA Silicon Valley hosted a reception in which ACYUT danced to Bollywood tunes and showed some kung-fu moves. The event drew a crowd of more than 400 people, the largest ever for a BITSAA event in the Silicon Valley.

Alumni contribution and support has enabled a "Robo" phenomenon on BITS Pilani campuses that has inspired an entire generation of students to pursue Robotics.

BITS2MSPHD

BITS2MSPHD wants to help BITSians get into top notch MS and PHD programs around the world. In 2009, BITS2MSPHD continued to expand its impact on the BITSian Community. Our achievements for 2009 included the following.

- The group currently consists of over 2300 alumni and current students of BITS Pilani and its campuses. The group has grown leaps and bounds, with just a little over 1000 members on 1/4/2007 to 2300 members on 11/11/2009 – an increase of 130% in 2 ½ years!



The Acyut Team . BITSAA International raised \$6892 for Team Acyut in 2009 thanks to donors like you

- Compared to 2008, there was a 25% increase in the number of admits and a 21% increase in the number of students with financial aid in 2009.
- Abhijeet Bhalerao (MS student, Purdue University) conducted the talk for the MS/PhD aspirants at the Pilani campus. At the *Goa Campus*, Akash Raman (PhD Student, Harvard University) conducted the talk via BITS Embryo .
- "Promote brand BITS Pilani to admission committees". In order to create more awareness about BITS Pilani and its campuses, BITS2MSPHD plans to visit 20-25 departments across different schools in departments across different schools in the US, and make the case why these top programs should be recruiting more BITSians.

BITS2Bschoo

2009 was planned to be an exciting year for BITS2BSCHOOL. The group is almost 2,300-strong spread across various locations around the globe, with the goal to enable BITSians to get into top Business Schools around the world. This year admit so global b-schools such as LBS, Wharton, INSEAD and ISB were on the increase.

One of the major activities currently underway is the BITS2BSchool Goes to B-School program. The first step in the process of building the brand 'BITS' is to communicate the merits of the BITS experience and the prominence of various BITS alumnus in industry circles. The BITS2BSCHOOL team is working on creating a world class brochure that will highlight the achievements of BITSians in their professional careers. This brochure will be shared with admission committees of top B-Schools to encourage them to admit more BITSians to their programs.

BITSAA Scholarships

BITSAA International Scholarships envisions that no BITSian should be denied a holistic educational experience and the opportunity to compete with the best due to a lack of funds. BITSians have contributed over \$65,000 till date for endowing various scholarships at the BITS Pilani campuses. In 2009, BITSAA International distributed 25 scholarships totaling to \$12K – see Table below for detailed breakdown.

Brij Bhushan ('64) Badminton Trophy

With just two weeks to go for BOSM 2009, Brij Bhushan ('64) came up with the idea to start an award that honors the champions of badminton during BOSM .Within no time BITSAA planed and implemented the Brij Bhushan Badminton award - a rolling trophy and cash prize of Rs. 5,000. The award is sure to provide an encouragement to the winners of the badminton championships held during BOSM every year.

0% APR Loans - Only at BITSAA International

BITSAA International's Loan Scholarships are a brand new experiment to inculcate a sense of giving back amongst young BITSians. Needy BITSians who do not qualify for any of the "regular" BITSAA Scholarships can avail an interest free (yes - 0% APR!) loan from BITSAA International. There is no legal documentation to be signed -- the Loan Scholarships run on honor code.

Gaurav Singh (BITS-Pilani Goa) became the first BITSian to avail of a \$450 loan scholarship to attend ASME Student Professional Development Conference at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Gaurav Singh also became the first BITSian to successfully "give back" the loan to BITSAA International.



BITSAA International Scholarships Disbursements 2009		
Scholarship	No	Amount expended
Travel	4	\$2427.5
Graduate Application	3	\$1500
Sports Awards	2	\$300
0% APR Loan*	1	\$450
Merit Cum Need	14	\$7400
Academic Excellence Award	1	\$100
TOTAL		\$12117.5

*This amount has already been returned

Kris Ramachandran Faculty Excellence Award

A generous contribution by fellow alum, Kris Ramachandran (1967 Batch) led to the creation of BITSAA International's first award for Faculty at the BITS campuses. The award recognizes and encourages young faculty who have made significant contributions to BITS through innovations in research and teaching and consists of a rolling plaque, certificate and a cash award of Rs 1 Lakh.

"The work presented attracted the attention of delegates which helped me in publicizing my work and in upbrining the recognition of BITS at international level which would not have been possible without the support of BITSAA International"

Buchi Reddy, Recipient of Travel Scholarship for presenting a paper at International Conference in, Ekaterinburg, Russia

Graduate Application Scholarship

The BITSAA International Graduate Application Scholarships were founded in 2007 to encourage BITSians to apply to the best schools around the world for pursuing MS and PhD programs. Three aspiring BITSians who plan to pursue their graduate studies in top tier universities will be awarded \$ 500 each to help fund their application fees to these programs.



Jubilant winners of the Brij Bhushan trophy

Contribution from the Trehan foundation

BITSAA International saw a boost in its Operational and Endowment funds this year with a contribution of \$ 9K by Mr. Ranvir Trehan (Batch of '61). Ranvir donated \$5K for BITSAA Travel Scholarships and an additional \$4K to endow a cash prize of Rs 10,000 for the already –existing Ranvir Trehan Tennis Tournament Trophy awarded at BOSM every year.

Prashant Reddy, final year Chemical Engineering student at Pilani benefitted from Ranvir's grant by availing \$1000 to continue his off-campus thesis at Georgia Institute of Technology. We are thankful to Ranvir for his generous contribution and for continuing to be one of the staunchest supporters of the Alumni Association.



Ranvir Trehan BITS batch '57 – '61 and wife Adarsh at Pilani



BITSAA Scholarships			
Name	Purpose	Started	Evaluation Method
Bhushan Bhatia Scholarship	50% Tuition fees for 2 students (1 male & 1 female) in III year (need based).	2009	Scholarships awarded based on financial need,
Ashok Agarwal Scholarship	Full tuition fee for a I year student (merit-cum-need), Hyderabad campus. Endowed for 3 years.	2009	Scholarships awarded based on both merit and financial need
Rakesh Chandra Scholarship	Full tuition fee for a II year student (merit-cum-need), Pilani campus. Endowed for 3 years.	2009	Scholarships awarded based on both merit and financial need
Project Sponsorships	Scholarship aimed at specific projects.	2009	For special projects recognized by the campus unique fund raising is done and for a small funding directly through BITSAA corpus it is judged by a panel of BITSians in academics
Hiralal Agarwal Memorial Scholarship	Full tuition need-based scholarship awarded to a student from Faizabad, UP district.	2009	Application accepted online (bitsaa.org) and awarded on need basis
Brij Bhushan Badminton Award	Trophy and cash prize of Rs. 5,000 awarded to the Winning badminton team during BOSM	2009	Winning badminton team during BOSM
Faculty Travel Scholarship	Partial sponsorship of faculty who are selected to present their research or invited as guests to represent BITS at international conferences	2009	Application evaluated by a team of Group Leaders on the respective campus and a team of BITS alumni currently working as faculty at international universities
Faculty Excellence Awards	Award recognizing the contribution of a young faculty who has contributed to research and student development at BITS	2010	Faculty selected by a panel made up of eminent alumni and distinguished faculty of BITS
Srikanth Analog Award and Fellowship	Award for the best project in the field of Analog Electronics at APOGEE & a subsequent Fellowship to pursue a project	2010	Evaluated by the Selection Committee of APOGEE consisting of Faculty members from BITS, Pilani
Best Physics Student	Award given to Best outgoing student of the Physics Group	2010	Selected by the Group Leader and other faculty of the Physics Group

BITSAA Silicon Valley's 'A Million Miles' Program

BITSAA Silicon Valley launched a unique program this year titled "A Million Miles". Through this program, BITSians can donate airline miles to support international travel of students and faculty of BITS Pilani. The "A Million Miles" program is the brainchild of fellow alum Jayan Ramankutty ('75 EEE) and is being led by Dilip Adityan ('99 EEE).

Under Dilip's leadership, the Million Miles Team has already collected 195,000 miles -- sufficient for funding at least three travel awards in 2009.

Arvind Pawan ('05 Phy & EEE) became the recipient of the first travel award through the Million Miles program. Arvind represented BITS Pilani at the prestigious 2009 IEEE Nano Conference held in Italy. The only undergraduate student selected to present, he fully credits BITSAA Silicon Valley Miles Program in making this unique opportunity a reality.

The Million Miles program is currently accepting United Airlines Frequent Flyer, Mileage Plus, miles. To contribute, please pledge your United Mileage Plus account miles in the [online form](#). Alternatively, you can also fill the donor form in this report and email it to miles-program@bitsaa.org

BITS Embryo

Through BITS Embryo, BITSians around the world can enrich the learning experience at the BITS Pilani campuses by sharing their invaluable resources - knowledge and experience. There is no need to travel to the campus – the BITSEmbryo lectures are conducted online. All you need is a computer with an Internet connection.

2009 was another blockbuster year for BITSEmbryo with the following lectures conducted by fellow BITSians

- Prof. Padmanabhan Seshaiyer ('89) - Mathematical and Computational Modeling of Biological and Bio-Inspired Systems
- Sudip Dutta ('95) - Career Choice in Sales
- Prem Talreja ('75) - From an Idea to a Startup
- Arun Maharajan ('99) - Why Germany for Higher Studies?
- Shashikant Khandelwal('97) - Entrepreneurship right after the College
- Avinash Modi('97) - Crude Unit - An Overview
- Abhijeet Bhalerao('03) - MS/PhD Applying Guidance
- Dr. S R Jayaprakash, - Computational Fluid Dynamics: Applications in Engineering
- Anand Agarwal('75) - Personal Wealth Creation and Risk Management
- Urvashi Rau ('97) - Remote Sensing Techniques
- Jai Natarajan ('89) - Computer graphics: Art meets Technology
- Aman Shaikh ('93) - Computer Networking
- Akash Raman ('04) - How to get into best universities across the world



A Let's promote BITS Pilani session in progress

Let's promote BITS Pilani

The Let's Promote BITS Pilani initiative aims at attracting the brightest minds to BITS Pilani by generating awareness amongst high school students across India about the value of the BITS Pilani experience. Introductory sessions for LPBP were conducted at various BITS Pilani campuses leading to sign up of more than 200 volunteers. In summer of 2009, the LPBP team covered 91 high schools across India covering 11,103 high school students.

Sagar Dughrekar ('95) became the first alumni to conduct an LPBP session. Sagar collaborated with the Aurangabad chapter of The Institute of Engineers to deliver a session promoting the BITS Pilani experience to more than 450 attendees. The Pilani virtual tour was a huge hit amongst the audience. Since Sagar took the lead to organize LPBP sessions, there have been many successful sessions by alums like Rajagopal S, Daniel Mascarenhas, Dr. A. Srinivas Rao and Prithwiraj Moulik. Please sign up as a BITS Pilani brand ambassador with the LPBP team by emailing lpbp-team@bitsaa.org. The LPBP team will provide you with complete presentation material and a list of best practices to follow for such sessions.

"..A very satisfying experience... makes LPBP a regular program..."
Volunteer, LPBP

"More than cheerful, encouraging & thrilling... it was tremendous..." **Attendee, LPBP session**

BITSAA Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (CEL)

BITSAA International's Centre for Entrepreneurial Leadership aims at fostering the spirit of Entrepreneurship amongst the BITSian community by connecting existing BITSian entrepreneurs to aspiring entrepreneurs. BITSAA CEL's accomplishments in 2009 include the following.

Summer in a Startup

Call it Practice School Three (PS-3), summer in a Startup aims at placing BITSians in hot startups in India. In 2009, CEL placed over 20 students in

various startup companies thereby affording young BITSians, a firsthand snapshot of startup life.

Sparks -- New Ventures Course

In a trendsetting initiative, Abhinav Khushraj ('95 InfoSys), BITSAA CEL's Director, sowed the seeds for BITS Pilani's first-ever course on Entrepreneurship titled Sparks. The purpose of Sparks is to not only study entrepreneurship but practice it. Student teams are expected to create a technology or product based startup and write a business plan. The course includes monthly lectures by successful entrepreneurs and VCs who also mentor the teams through the semester and beyond.

The CEL Lecture Series

Sunit Rikhi ('74 EEE), VP Operations at Intel, enthralled a group of 25 BITSians in Silicon Valley with his life story while he talked about "*Advancing the leading edge of Moore's Law - Dealing with challenges & opportunities*" as part of the CEL lecture series. The inaugural CEL lecture in Bangalore featured Phanindra Sama ('98 EEE) sharing his story of taking an "*Idea to The India's Largest Bus Ticketing Company – redbus.in*".

Project Showcase

BITSAA CEL has launched Project ShowCase in collaboration with the BITS Pilani Goa campus to create first-of-its-kind case studies of BITSian entrepreneurs and their entrepreneurial journey. These case studies will be used for Entrepreneurship and Management courses at the BITS campuses.

The BITSAA CEL is looking for passionate BITSians to join their team. Please contact the team at cel-team@bitsaa.org.

BITS AID

BITS. aid was created by Sudip Dutta ('95 Mech) with the objective to connect BITSians to non profit organizations working to give back to the society. Sudip relaunched BITS.aid in 2009 to create a core group of 20+ volunteers. The diverse core group aims at bring BITSians across the globe together to make a better society, tackle various social and environmental needs and establish new frontiers for

BITSians to connect to the global volunteering community.



At BITSAA International's Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (CEL) Silicon Valley lecture with Mr Sunit Rikhi, VP Operations at Intel

The BITS.aid team is currently managing active projects such as

- *Lend-A-Hand India – Plan 100* - equips youth in rural India with job and life skills
- *Nirmaan-* works towards poverty free knowledge and livelihood opportunities for the underprivileged
- *Small Steps Foundation* – focuses on education for underprivileged girls
- *Gyonodhaya* – imparts basic education to physically challenged meritorious children.

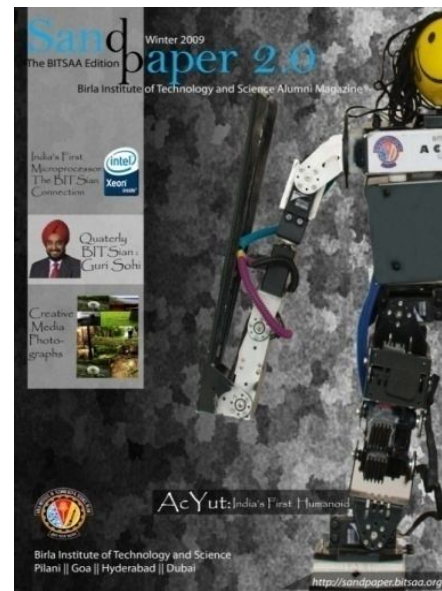
Sandpaper 2.0 – BITSAA Alumni Magazine

Sandpaper 2.0 - the BITSAA edition is BITSAA's biannual alumni magazine - a magazine for BITSians, by the BITSians and about BITS, BITSians and BITSAA. The Sandpaper team published two issues this year. Dileepan Narayanan ('00 Mech) passed on Sandpaper 2.0 Chief Editorship baton to Meenakshi Chatterjee ('00 Phy & EEE) this year.

Check out the latest Sandpaper 2.0 issues at <http://sandpaper.bitsaa.org>.



Sandpaper – Spring 2009 edition



Sandpaper – Spring 2009 edition

BITSAA Newsletter – Monthly Update on Everything BITSian

BITSAA International's publishes a monthly newsletter to keep the BITSian community informed with news and updates from BITS Pilani and the Alumni base. Satish Poliseti ('02 Mech & EEE) and his team works tirelessly to bring you the latest and the spiciest of news from around the world.



BITSAA Teams

BITSAA International's teams work tirelessly day and night with burning passion to give back to our community. Here are quick updates from each team and what they are working on to make your BITSAA experience better.

Technology Team

The BITSAA Technology Team led by BITSAA's CTO Sarath Kolla ('93 Bio Sci & CS) focuses on designing and implementing efficient solutions for technical needs across BITSAA, and provides all its teams,

chapters and initiatives with required infrastructural support to execute their goals. The Tech Team's 2009 accomplishments include -

- Launching the U.S. and Indian editions of the BITSAA International online e-Store
- Preparing quality guided tours and tutorials for BITSAA chapters on how to make use of the unique features of the new portal.
- Setup an automated newsletter and Twitter Support
- Provisioning Faculty membership type to encourage BITS faculty members to join the portal
- Designing the web-version of the BITSAA International magazine Sandpaper 2.0 and revive older issues on the portal
- Setting up CampusBuzz – Campus information blog maintained in collaboration with Campus Relations Team.

Campus Relations Team

The BITSAA Campus Relations team led by Rakesh Anugula ('02 MMS & Fin) acts as a bridge between BITSAA International and all BITS campuses thereby aligning BITSAA International with the priorities of the various campuses.

The initiatives undertaken by the team this year include getting graduating students to sign up on the BITSAA portal, providing support to the placements



division, publishing campus update reports and recruiting volunteers from various campuses. The Campus Relations team is currently working on "Sabbatical at BITS" to attract alumni in academia and industry to take up semester long teaching assignments at various campuses. Also in the works are blogs that can be integrated with the BITSAA portal to streamline the process of keeping the alumni informed about the campuses and vice versa.

The BITSAA.org Alumni Directory is now 6000+ strong, has enabled collection of over \$40k, sent over 82779 emails to registered alumni regarding events, gettogether's and newsletters since its inception in 2008.

Communications Team

The BITSAA Communications team led by Vinodh Nandakumar ('02 Mech) aspires to take the BITS Pilani brand to stellar heights and strives to create stronger channels of communication among alumni, the BITS Pilani campuses and vital stakeholders like the media, recruiters, prospective students and the general public.

The Communications Team 2009 accomplishments include:

- **@bitsaa on Twitter** - more than 500 followers updated continuously about various activities
- **100% Placements** - a joint effort with the placements division at BITS Pilani to conduct student recruitment events in Hyderabad and Bangalore.
- **Chapter Connect** - rejuvenating dormant BITSAA chapters and bringing the local chapters closer to build a stronger BITSians network
- **BITSAA Annual Report 2009** – and of course the biggest initiative of the year – getting this report ready for your pleasure.

The Communications Team's activities for the near future include reaching out to BITSAA local chapters, help them in conducting local activities and increase the membership on the BITSAA.org alumni directory

Human Resources

The Human Resources team led by Raghu Raman ('04 Instru) manages the most important BITSAA resource – its people – BITSians like you. BITSAA International has grown from three team members in early 2008 to 91 "Leaders" today. As we have grown in size, we have increased our ability to create impact on the lives of fellow BITSians to meet our vision of "Maximize[ing] the potential of BITSians and BITS Pilani".

If you are passionate about joining us on this journey and would like to volunteer for BITSAA International, please email the HR team humanresources-team@bitsaa.org.

Scholarship Team

The BITSAA Scholarship team handles creation of scholarships at various BITS, Pilani campuses and the disbursement and management of these scholarships. It also aims to create a global framework to enable alumni to actively donate and create scholarships. Uzma Hussain Barlaskar ('03 CS) works at creating new scholarships while Ashwin Gowda ('02 Chem) and his team manage existing scholarships. More than \$6000 has been disbursed in 2009 for various scholarships the details of which have already been highlighted in earlier parts of the report.

BITSAA International takes this opportunity to thank the alumni for their continued support. You can help achieve our mission and personally impact the life of a student by creating a scholarship or by donating to the BITSAA International Scholarship Corpus Fund and other initiatives. As a passionate alumnus if you are interested in creating a scholarship or donate to the BITSAA International Corpus fund, please get in touch with scholarships@bitsaa.org.

Fundraising Team

BITSAA International's Fundraising team is led by Arun Aravind ('97 Gen Stu). The Fundraising team's mission is to raise funds for BITSAA International's initiatives, including setting up of scholarships for students at BITS Pilani campuses and meeting the operational fund requirements of the Alumni Association.



In 2009, the Fundraising team led several fundraising drives namely (i)Anitha Ashokan initiative (ii)ACYUT (iii)Divya Nawale's Antarctica mission (iv)'66 Batch Fundraiser for sound system in Pilani campus auditorium (iv)BOSM tennis and badminton prize money and trophies.

As on Oct 15th 2009 the Fundraising team had raised \$81,000 during the calendar year. One of the biggest achievements of the fundraising team for this year is launching of the online Estores both in the USA and in India. You can visit the store online <http://bitsaa.yourmembership.com/?page=eStore> to purchase some exciting BITS merchandise and take a trip down the memory lane.

If you have some new ideas in your mind, that you would like to implement, email us at fundraising-team@bitsaa.org, we will be happy to work with you. You could also support us by advertising with us, or sponsoring our website.

BITSAA Investment Committee

The BITSAA Investment Committee (BIC) led by Rajesh Chelapurath ('88 Phy & EEE) manages the BITSAA Endowment Fund. The team's objectives include –

- Generating proceeds to administer BITSAA's current endowed initiatives
- Generate funds to support any other BITSAA need or obligations as deemed necessary by the BITSAA Trustees and Executive Team.
- Grow excess endowment capital base to help support future initiatives of BITSAA
- The BIC endeavors to achieve these objectives via appropriate investments within a combined investment portfolio called the BITSAA Endowment Fund (BEF).

2009 Highlights

The last quarter of 2008 and year-to-date 2009 has seen one of the most tumultuous periods in financial market history. Some of the highlights of BIC's activities, and points to note, during this period are as below. For detailed information on the BITSAA Endowment Fund see the BITSAA International Financial Statement 2009 in this report.

- **Investments and Principal** The BEF has grown over the years (since its inception value of approx. \$10,000 in April, 2003), via a

combination of investment returns and new endowments, to \$102,749 (September 30, 2009 close; * including Brij Bhushan's accrued pledge obligations), exceeding \$100K for the first time in BITSAA's history.

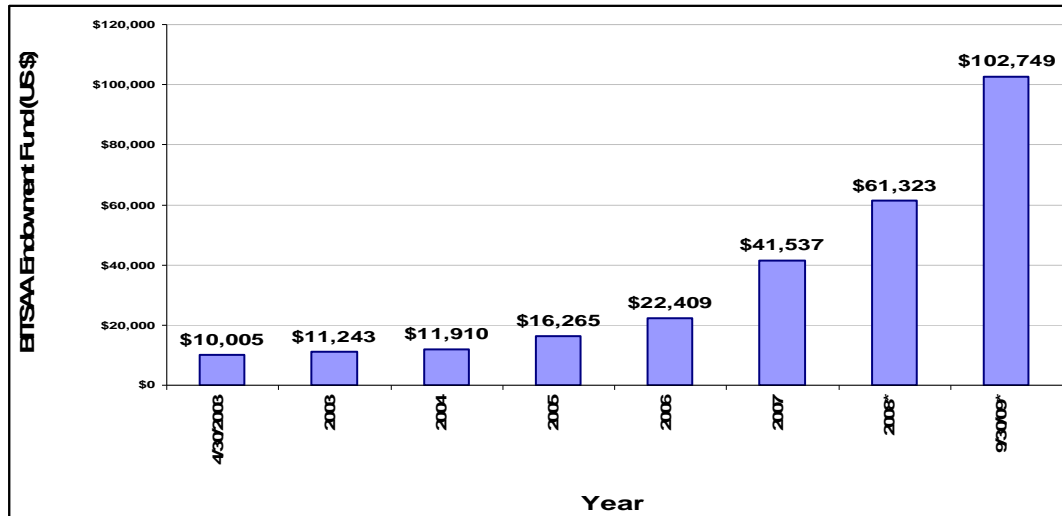
- **Principal Protection of the BEF investments** within the context of BITSAA's obligations and need for capital appreciation is of utmost importance.. According to reports in The Wall Street Journal the median investment performance of Large University Endowments (including Harvard, MIT, Yale, Columbia, and others) for the one-year period ending June 30, 2009 (typical University Endowments' fiscal year end) was -18%. During this same one-year period the BEF performed respectably versus this Large University Endowments peer group (although the size is not comparable) with an investment return of -7.6%.
- Year-to-date, as of September 30, 2009 the BEF had an investment rate of return of +17.4%
- **Custodial Transition** - To facilitate access to an enhanced universe of investment choices and to lower costs, BIC moved BEF's custodial platform from a Retail platform to an institutional one, at TD Ameritrade institutional.

"..The BITSAA Graduate Scholarship gave the much-needed boost to my confidence.. The scholarship support also helped me concentrate on the top programs and drastically reduce the number of safe-schools that I was planning to apply to.."

Pritwiraj Moulik – Graduate Application Scholarship Recipient 08-09



Bitsaa Endowment Fund



BITSAA International Financial Statement 2009

BITSAA Endowment Fund

Jan 1, 2009 to Sept 30, 2009

A	Opening Balance (as of 31-Dec-2008) *	\$ 61,323
Revenues/ Donations/ Cash Flowing In		
Endowed Initiatives		
4/23/2009	Hiralal Agarwal Tuition Scholarships donated by Bhasker Agarwal (66)	\$25,000
9/22/2009	Brij Bhushan (60 EEE) Badminton Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 2,000
9/22/2009	Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 4,000
Total		\$31,000
Other Initiatives (these amounts to flow through to BITSAA Operations A/c)		
9/22/2009	Anitha Asokan (04 EEE) Initiative	\$ 100
9/22/2009	Brij Bhushan (65 EEE) Badminton Trophy & Cash Prize donation	\$ 500
9/22/2009	Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Trophy Cash Prize donation	\$ 200
Total		\$ 800
B	Total 2009 INCOMING	\$ 31,800
Expenses/ Disbursements/ Cash Flowing Out		
Endowed Initiatives		
4/23/2009	Various	\$ 2,000
Total		\$ 2,000
Other Initiatives (these amounts to flow through to BITSAA Operations A/c)		
Total		\$ -
Total		\$ -
C	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 2,000
D	Income and Unrealized Gains/Losses (Investment Return, \$)	\$ 11,626
Closing Balance (as of 9/30/09) * (A+B-C+D)		\$ 102,749

* Includes Brij Bhushan's accrued pledge obligations



BITSAA operational Funds

Jan 1, 2009 to Dec 31, 2009 *	
Opening Balance (as on 31-Dec-2008)	\$18,811
Revenues/ Donations/ Cash Flowing In	
Operational Revenues	
BITSAA E-Store Sales Revenue	\$ 68
Corporate Matching Contributions	\$ 3,863
Interest income from TD Bank (formerly Commerce Bank)	\$ 26
Total	\$ 3,957
Donations: Non-Endowed Initiatives	
Graduate Scholarships	\$ 280
Travel Scholarships	\$ 5,060
Loan Fund (Donated by Brij Bhushan (65 EEE) to provide loans for student travel)	\$ 1,000
Anitha Ashokan (04 E&I) Initiative	\$14,721
ACYUT-II (Robotics) initiative	\$ 6,892
Class of 1971 Fundraiser for Pilani Auditorium Sound System Upgrade	\$22,245
Divya Nawale's (03 Mech) Antarctic Mission	\$ 1,251
Brij Bhushan (65 EEE) Badminton Trophy & Cash Prize donation	\$ 500
Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Trophy Cash Prize donation	\$ 200
Mantra Awards donation by Anupendra Sharma (87 Eco, Instru)	\$ 1,000
Hiralal Agarwal Tuition Scholarships donated by Bhasker Agarwal (66)	\$ 1,250
Ashok Agarwal (60 Mech) Tuition Scholarship	\$ 1,450
BITSAA General Fund	\$ 4,973
Total	\$60,822
Donations: Endowed Initiatives	
Hiralal Agarwal Foundation (donated by Bhasker Agarwal - 66)	\$25,000
Brij Bhushan (60 EEE) Badminton Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 2,000
Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 4,000
Credit from BITSAA Endowment Fund Towards Endowed Scholarships (Bhushan Bhatia, Vamsi Pendyala, SS Seshadri, Leuna Herkawat & RP Vaid Scholarships)	\$ 2,000
Total	\$33,000
Total 2009* INCOMING CASH	\$97,779
TOTAL INCOMING CASH FLOW -- INCLUDING OPENING BALANCE ON 31-Dec-2008	\$ 116,590
Expenses/ Disbursements/ Cash Flowing Out	
Operational Expenses	
BITSAA.org Website/ YMC	\$ 6,090
Alumni Magazine -- Sandpaper	\$ 200
Tax Consultant Fees (for 2007 & 2008)	\$ 4,000
Attorney Fees	\$ 350
Registration Fees	\$ 150
BITSAA India Trust Setup Fees	\$ 625
Wire Transfer Fees for disbursements	\$ 265
BITSAA International Annual Report 2008 Shipping Expenses	\$ 592
Fundraising Campaign 2008 'Thank You' Cards	\$ 142
BITSAA International Annual Report 2009	\$ 2,500
Online Payment Gateway Fees (Credit card processing)	\$ 1,345
BITSAA Conference Call Infrastructure (Hi-Def)	\$ 525
Miscellaneous	\$ 500
Total	\$17,284
Disbursements: Non-Endowed Initiatives	
Graduate Scholarships -- 6 scholarships \$500 each	\$ 3,000
Travel Scholarships	\$ 5,000
100% Placement Initiative	\$ 1,128
Anitha Asokan (04 EEE) Initiative	\$14,721
ACYUT-II (Robotics) Initiative	\$ 5,312
Class of 1971 Fundraiser for Pilani Auditorium Sound System Upgrade	\$22,245
Divya Nawale's (03 Mech) Antarctic Mission	\$ 1,251
Brij Bhushan (65 EEE) Badminton Trophy & Cash Prize donation	\$ 500
Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Trophy Cash Prize donation	\$ 200
Mantra Awards donation by Anupendra Sharma (87 Eco, Instru)	\$ 1,000
Rakesh Chandra (60 Mech) Tuition Scholarship	\$ 1,280
Hiralal Agarwal Tuition Scholarships donated by Bhasker Agarwal (66)	\$ 1,250
Ashok Agarwal (60 Mech) Tuition Scholarship	\$ 1,450
Total	\$58,337
Disbursements: Endowed Initiatives	
Scholarships (Bhushan Bhatia, Vamsi Pendyala, SS Seshadri, Leuna Herkawat & RP Vaid Scholarships)	\$ 2,500
Total	\$ 2,500
Transfer to BITSAA Endowment Fund	
Hiralal Agarwal Foundation (donated by Bhasker Agarwal - 66)	\$25,000
Brij Bhushan (60 EEE) Badminton Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 2,000
Ranvir Trehan (57 Electrical) Tennis Rolling Trophy Cash Prize	\$ 4,000
Total	\$31,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 109,121
Excess Funds for Future Operations and Disbursements**	\$ 7,470

* Unaudited. The income/cash flow is as of 04-Nov-2009. This statement includes projected expenses for rest of year.

** Excess funds may be allocated towards BITSAA.org Website/YMC fees (\$6000 per year)



Donation Form - International

Please fill this out and mail to:

Kaushik Subramanian, CFO, kaushik@bitsaa.org

243 Buena Vista Ave, Apt 1801, Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Federal EIN# 22-3835037

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: _____
BITS Batch (year of entry) and Degree(s): _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____
Email Address: _____

DONATION AMOUNT

Recurring Donations Yes, please send me reminders for donation every ____ months
 No, I would prefer to make a one-time donation
Donation Mechanism I've enclosed a check payable to 'BITSAA International'
 I will donate by credit card on www.bitsaa.org/donations

Please mark 'X' against the initiative(s) that you would like to contribute to, along with the allocation:

____	BITSAA General Fund	Donate: \$ _____
____	Student Travel Grants	Donate: \$ _____
____	Graduate Application Scholarships	Donate: \$ _____
____	Let's Promote BITS Pilani	Donate: \$ _____
____	Other/Create Endowment (specify)	Donate: \$ _____
____	BITSAA Miles Program	Donate: _____ Miles

Creating an endowment: A perpetual endowment in your name or in the name of a loved one can be created with a reasonable sized donation. For example, a \$25,000 endowment donation can create an annual disbursement of \$1,250 for any initiative that you would like to support.

United Airlines Mileage Plus Account Number: _____

Miles Expiration Date _____ :

In case of other airlines, if you are willing to pledge a minimum of 30000 miles, please mention the name of the airlines. We will contact you regarding the same.

DONATING SECURITIES

Have you thought about donating securities to BITSAA International? BITSAA can sell your securities and the proceeds used towards the initiative or program of your choice. Appreciated securities (stocks/mutual funds) held for more than one year can result in double tax benefits.

- You receive gift credit and an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid for them.
- You pay no capital gains tax on the securities you donate.
- You can direct your gift to a specific fund or purpose.

If you are interested, please contact us at kaushik@bitsaa.org and we will send you more information to coordinate this transfer to BITSAA International.

Yes, I am interested. Please contact me at my email ID. No, Thank You.



BITSAA Donation Form – India

Please fill this out and mail to:

Uzma Barlaskar, uzma@bitsaa.org
Flat 402, Srinivasa Towers (Near ITC Kakatiya), Begumpet, Hyderabad 500016

DONOR INFORMATION

Name: _____
 BITS Batch (year of entry) and Degree(s): _____
 Street Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email Address: _____

DONATION AMOUNT

Recurring Donations Yes, please send me reminders for donation every ____ months
 No, I would prefer to make a one-time donation
 Donation Mechanism I've enclosed a check payable to 'BITSAA International India'
 I will donate by credit card on www.bitsaa.org/donations

Please mark 'X' against the initiative(s) that you would like to contribute to, along with the allocation:

_____	BITSAA General Fund	Donate: Rs _____
_____	Student Travel Grants	Donate: Rs _____
_____	Graduate Application Scholarships	Donate: Rs _____
_____	Let's Promote BITS Pilani	Donate: Rs _____
_____	Other/Create Endowment (specify)	Donate: Rs _____
_____	BITSAA Miles Program	Donate: _____ Miles

Creating an endowment: A perpetual endowment in your name or in the name of a loved one can be created with a reasonable sized donation. For example, a Rs 12.5 Lakh endowment donation can create an annual disbursement of Rs 65,000 for any initiative that you would like to support.

United Airlines Mileage Plus Account Number: _____

Miles Expiration Date _____ :

In case of other airlines, if you are willing to pledge a minimum of 30000 miles, please mention the name of the airlines. We will contact you regarding the same.

DONATING SECURITIES

Have you thought about donating securities to BITSAA International? BITSAA can sell your securities and the proceeds used towards the initiative or program of your choice. Appreciated securities (stocks/mutual funds) held for more than one year can result in double tax benefits.

- You receive gift credit and an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid for them.
- You pay no capital gains tax on the securities you donate.
- You can direct your gift to a specific fund or purpose.

If you are interested, please contact us at kaushik@bitsaa.org and we will send you more information and coordinate this transfer to BITSAA International.

Yes, I am interested. Please contact me at my email ID. No, Thank You.

Donor list 2009

BITSAA International would like to thank all the donors for their generous contribution.

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BITSAA International: Organisation Structure



Board of Directors

- SP Kothari - Boston
- Niranjan Bose - Seattle
- Punita Pandey - Silicon Valley
- Chandra Bhople - Silicon Valley
- AP Mathur - Indiana
- Brij Bhushan - Washington DC
- Ashish Garg - Silicon Valley
- Rajesh Chelapurath - Houston
- Krishna Hegde - New York
- Deepak Sharma - Silicon Valley

Vice Presidents/Directors

- Finance
- Technology
- Communications
- Fund Raising
- VP, Fund Raising
- Human Resources
- Campus Relations
- BITS Aid; BITSAA Social Initiatives
- BITSEmbryo
- Sandpaper

- Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Investment Officer
- Chief Finance Officer
- Chief Technology Officer
- Chief Operations Officer

Managers/Project Leads

- Sandpaper
- Global Meet 2010
- BITS2BSCHOOL
- Scholarships
- CEL
- BITSAA LinkedIn Group
- BITS2MSPHD
- Fund Raising
- LPBP
- Communications
- 100% Placements
- Technology
- Finance
- Investments
- BITSAA Lists
- Campus Relations
- BITS Aid

Team Leaders/Volunteers

- Campus Relations
- Fund Raising
- LPBP
- Communications
- Technology
- CEL
- Scholarships
- BITS2BSCHOOL
- Global Meet 2010
- BITS Embryo

