New ECE building annexe

The ECE Department has a new annexe (G + 3 floors) behind the original building, which provides additional space of 34,500 sq. ft. It includes a large classroom/auditorium (~100 seats), a smaller classroom (~60 seats), and a hands-on lab for building electronic systems, in addition to lab spaces for ten faculty members and student spaces. The building is well designed with natural lighting and ventilation, and has adequate social space for researchers to interact. It was inaugurated on 17th July by the Director.

Digital education initiatives

The President of India, accompanied by the Minister of Human Resource Development and the Minister of State for Human Resource Development, launched the following initiatives on 9th July, during a national convention attended by the vice-chancellors and directors of all universities and higher education institutes.

- **SWAYAM:** Portal for digital learning - https://swayam.gov.in/Home
- **The National Digital Library:** Searchable library that brings together a variety of learning resources, and features about 2 million digital books - https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/
- **The National Academic Depository:** Digital repository of certificates issued by academic institutions, to create a system where students can obtain authenticated certificates online, and employers, banks, etc. can easily verify the authenticity of applications. NAD services will be provided by two companies, NSDL and CDSL. An institution can register with any one of these companies. Services under NAD will be free for the first 2 years for academic institutions, students and users.

Convocation 2017

The Institute's convocation was held on 5th July at the JN Tata Auditorium. The Hon'ble President of India delivered the convocation address. The Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka and Chief Minister of Karnataka were present as guests of honour. 356 students received their degrees in person and 52 received medals for outstanding achievements.

Placement activities

Ms. Bhagyalaxmi has joined IISc as Placement Officer at the Office of Career Counselling & Placement (OCCaP). Background activities have been initiated towards campus recruitment for the new academic year. Around 400 students have filled out forms expressing interest to participate in campus recruitment. Members of student placement teams have also been identified.

New Librarian

Dr. Ananda Byrappa has joined the Institute as Librarian in the JRD Tata Memorial Library on 24th July. He holds a PhD in Information Science. Before joining the Institute, he was Global Leader, Knowledge Centre, GE John F. Welch Tech Centre.

UGC Review

A committee constituted by the UGC under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ajit Keshav Kembhavi, IUCAA, Pune, visited the Institute between 15th and 17th May to review the continuation of Deemed University status given to IISc. On the basis of this committee's recommendations, the UGC has approved the continuation of the Institute's Deemed University status. The UGC has also recommended that the Institute obtains NAAC accreditation early.