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# WATCH OUT!

Students' News Magazine

SPRING 2015 ISSUE 0



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## EDITOR'S NOTE : FOR FORMALITIES' SAKE

I will not bore you with fancy beginnings. Neither will I try to hold your admiration by throwing around heavy sounding words. Honestly, I'm not even sure what I'm going to write here. It's not like I actually have something I wish to say to you.

Sleep-deprived, slightly overworked, thirteen thousand kilometers away - here I am staring at a computer screen; trying to fill it up with words that inspire, tickle or amaze. But most importantly, provoke. An idea, thought or action. I leave that up to you.

Hello, dear reader. This has been a longer prologue than I imagined. But don't blame me. It's not like I planned it this way. In fact, it's not like we plan much in life anyway. The more I think about it, the more my life's continuum seems to break down and life starts looking like a series of discrete points. An output of decisions made along the way, based on the experiences of the previous decisions. At no point in time do I remember to having decided for my life to turn out the way it did. No great plan; no predetermined scheme seems to me to be at work. Just events, happening one after the other, in mysterious synchronicity. All leading me to where I am. Which is here in front of this computer screen, trying to cough up words faster than I can think.

Nevertheless, after 21 years of skimming through these events, if there's one thing I've become more and more certain of with time, it's that there is no 'right way' of doing things. No sequence of incidents that will leave you completely satisfied. In this context, Watch out! comes across as a good example. Many people in the campus have their own ideas about what Watch Out! should be doing. And a lot of them are good ones too, really. Even inside the group, I see everyone with different (though thankfully, sufficiently overlapping) visions for the group; each requiring us to proceed in substantially different directions. Abhijeet has written a brilliant address covering this dilemma and more. If you decide to read only a couple of pieces from this magazine- I hope you include that.

The main focus of this issue is one about which no number of words spoken or written shall be enough. A problem as much our institute's, as the country in which it resides. While our institute is no stranger to media frenzy; the recent circus following the entirely expendable expulsion of 73 undergraduate students exposes gaping holes in the administrative procedure in our institute. I have no doubts that whatever decisions are made in the Senate are while keeping the best interests of the institute in mind. However such stark difference in opinions between the students and policymakers throws weight on the need for more effective communication between the two groups. Policies and processes need to evolve with time, and what does not change-sooner or later, becomes obsolete. In the cover story we talk about the flaws and unnecessary loops in the administrative machinery. This problem in itself is large enough to be tackled in one story, and in this issue we detail a few perspectives on it. It must be noted that this magazine was completed before the news about the expulsion came forth, and therefore has no mention of it within. We shall be following up on it in detail on our website.

Which brings me, to the end. Of this piece as well as my time with Watch Out. It's my last year in college, and only thinking about leaving it gives me the jitters. In due time I'm sure all this will be forgotten, and 3 am bakar sessions and hostel allocations shall recede to become trivialities of the past. Watch Out! too, may then seem like "just a college group a bunch of students were mildly enthusiastic about". What shall not seem trivial however is the change this college group brought about in a timid first yearite who came for the recruitments and somehow made through despite speaking very little in the GD. It has been a fun three years, and I am glad to have been a part of this group. For all the memories and the experiences, thank you, Watch Out.

## THE LADY WITH THE VIOLIN



*picture credits-Photography section, IIT Roorkee*

With the grace of a princess and an incomprehensible-yet-sweet Polish accent, Kate Chruscicka, one of the UK's most talented and ambitious violinist, visited IIT Roorkee during Cognizance 2015. After spending almost her entire life mastering the instrument, Kate, along with her custom-made violin, now performs in concerts taking place all over Europe. She is currently promoting her recently released album, which comprises both classical and contemporary pieces. She is also due to release a second album, featuring purely classical pieces, in the near future.

She was kind enough to spare some time for **Watch Out!** from her hectic schedule and share a few things about her life, her love for violin and her upcoming album. In conversation with **Kate Chruscicka**, the lady with the Violin:

**Okay. So first things first, how do we pronounce your surname?**

Yeah, of course. It's just as difficult for me to pronounce your names. Well, it's 'Croo-shichs-Kaa'.

**(After some hopeless struggles) Right. Guess we'll stick with Kate for a while. Kate, how does it feel to be here?**

Absolutely amazing. The whole institute is beautiful and I heard that it takes a lot of hard work to come here, so congratulations are in order. I think this place has all the facilities you need to have for a healthy future.

**How was your student life at the University of Leeds?**

I started speaking English when I was sixteen. I barely had two years to learn it before I went to a college. The structure is quite different in England where we have a lot many practical subjects. I never really lived in the student halls and dorms since I had a day accommodation but I did make friends for a lifetime. I had a fabulous and a relaxing time there. That span of 2-3 years was perhaps the only time I was carefree of the future and the challenges that come along.

**People have mostly seen you in stage performances where a thousand eyes are glued to you, though you've had hands on street performances too. How is that experience different?**

There is hardly any difference. In England, things are organized differently. You need to be licensed for street performances as well. Music is music. It's the same, either you play it for a couple of people or you do it for hundreds and hundreds. It doesn't interfere with the nature of my performance

**Well, that's an impressive quality to have. We'd like to know more about your latest album, 'The Violinist'.**

This hasn't been released yet. It will be aired some time soon. This album was initially released in 2009 when I was a little young. My musical taste and experiences have changed since then. So I decided to revamp this album. There will be additional tracks in it and 'Reflection' will be the final addition. I have been inspired by many situations and events in my life ever since, so I rewrote this track.

**We saw the video of that track and were awestruck at the setting. The whole scale makes it grand and at the same slightly spiritual.**

Did you like the video? (*Giggles*) Thank you!

It is quite spiritual, yes. This is why it's my last track on the album because it opens to new areas and possibilities. Apart from the highly commercial ones, I would genuinely like to be doing a little bit of underground music in future (*laughs*).

**How do you find Classical music different from Modern music?**

I have been training on my classical violin since the age of six. I tried electric for the first time when I was 18 and that turned out to be a promising start. A year later, my first album was out. Classical music has all those rigid rules you ought to follow. But with Modern, I have the freedom to play in my own style. And since Violin is a technical instrument, you can cover all the spectrums. That is the upside.

**Okay. So what do you prefer- Classical or Modern?**

Oh it's rather difficult to choose. Classical violin will always remain very close to my heart as I have been playing it for a long time. But electric appeals more to the audience and plus, it's fun to perform. But I think I am more of a classical person.

**We have advanced to electrical instruments but at the same time video channels like Youtube are affecting the traditional system. How do you feel technology has impacted music?**

Yes, often we don't realise how much labour and expertise goes into recording and producing the final tracks. The ways and techniques of recording have changed big time. The sound waves are not recorded the same way they used to be. Recording music nowadays is quite a venture. Youtube channels certainly have privileged a better section which couldn't have been possible otherwise since it's a free medium. However the performers and artists who actually play often stay in the backdrop. Electric violin is built on different scales than other violins but I don't mind playing it! (Oh we don't either.)

**Any message to the students of IIT Roorkee?**

Keep up the good work!

## THE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

A Eurotrip is the dream of every IITian. The notion of uploading your n-gigabytes of pictures on social media at exotic locations that you once saw on Discovery Channel dominates almost all the desires of any random, yoga-class attending student of IITR.

What if we told you that there exists a process by which you can achieve the aforementioned without dropping those infinite mails to random professors of foreign land, boasting about your dedication and sincerity to their respective fields of interest? What if we told you that you could get a Student Exchange to a foreign university based in a European destination like Sweden or Germany? Expecting an affirmation to some of the posed questions from almost every student of the institute, WONA brings to you the coverage of the opportunities at your disposal, in an interview with **Mrs. Purnima Govind**, the Executive Assistant at the office of Dean of Alumni Affairs.

**WONA: Can you tell us how the student exchange policy works?**

EA: It's an elaborate inter-collegiate programme. In a nutshell, it can be considered as the swap of a few students between two institutes. This gives the students an opportunity to spend an entire semester in another institute, helping them gain international exposure and enhance their career prospects. Students are required to pay the regular institutional fee of the parent college while the residential and dining costs in the foreign land are to be borne separately.

**WONA: How are the students graded in the semester in which they have a student exchange?**

EA: The credits for that particular semester of the host college are transferred to this institute. However the grades of this semester are not taken into account in the calculation of the final CGPA on graduation. Students should ensure that they have gained all the credits specified for the undergraduate or post-graduate programme.

**WONA: What is the procedure to get a student exchange in IITR?**

EA: If you visit our website, [iitr.ac.in](http://iitr.ac.in) -> Academics -> Institutional Agreements, you will find the exhaustive list of all the institutes with which we have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) signed. A Student Exchange Agreement is prerequisite for a student exchange to happen. At the moment we have only 6 such agreements. These institutes give out advertisements specifying the date for the applications to be filed. The application needs to be downloaded from their website, duly filled and submitted to the Dean of Alumni Affairs and International Relations. All the correspondence happens through this office. Of course, you have to apply a semester prior to the semester in which the exchange commences. The deadlines for the applications can be found on the website of each college and they generally fall somewhere in April for the Autumn semester and October for the Spring semester.

**WONA: What else is required to get the student exchange?**

EA: First and the most essential step is that you need to match the courses of the semester with the help of the departmental coordinator. The courses which are present in the course curriculum of IITR but not in that of the host college have to be opted for in the subsequent semester by the candidate. You also need the approval and the letter of recommendation by the HOD and also an approval from Dean of Academics.

**WONA: What is the criterion for the selection of candidates for the programme?**



EA: Though we have had student exchanges in the past, to make the system more efficient the entire system is in the process of being revamped. The redundant links on the website have been disposed of and a new system to handle the international relations is being devised. The heuristics are in the developing phase right now. The CGPA of a candidate can be one of the criteria for judgement however, it is not yet finalised.

**WONA: What can be done to inculcate awareness about the Exchange programme among the students of the institute?**

EA: As soon as the offers open up, the information for the programme will be officially advertised. It has been suggested that we put it up on channel-I. Students are advised to check out the list of institutions from the aforementioned web-page and also visit the internet portals of the concerned institute and fetch information.

**WONA: What are the future plans of the institute for the Student Exchange Programme?**

EA: We are working towards deeper and wider international ties. Ms. Jo Nesbitt, the Director of International Relations at the University of Southampton, arrived here in the campus in October of last year. She is visiting IITR on a 6-month long sabbatical to improvise upon the process. Once the system is given a structure, we will try to foster agreements with more foreign universities. We are also trying to have an interactive session so that those on the exchange can share their experience with the masses and hence create room for virtual learning.

**WONA: Like other premier institutes, IIM Calcutta for instance, does the institute support the students who need financial backing for the exchange?**

EA: As I said the plan is in its development stage so, it's really hard to comment on this particular aspect. But this issue will be given serious consideration. If possible we will try to have a scheme to support the students so that their capabilities are not shrouded due to financial problems and anyone who wishes to apply, gets a fair chance of selection.

*For further queries readers can contact the alumni affairs office directly on the office phone numbers - 5840 and 6699 or you can write a mail to the office of the Dean on the mail address- dean.aair.iitr@gmail.com.*



## JASHN'15

From the lost pages of the Ultimate Freshman's Guide to IITR, the cultural week can be identified as a time of the semester when all the erstwhile members of major clans of R-land showcase the hard-work that they put in for the entire semester.

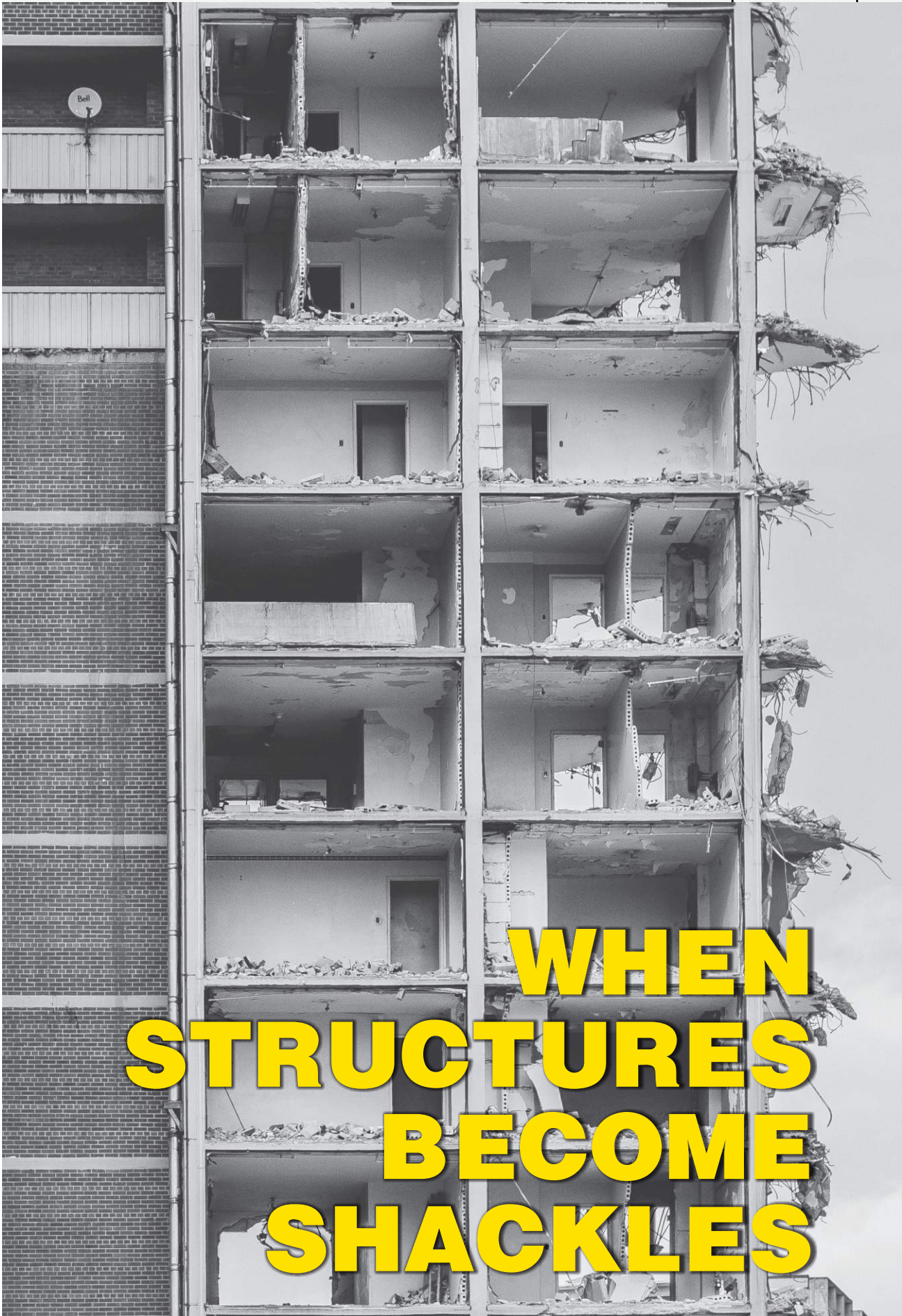
No doubt, the members of Choreo and Dance Section toil hard for weeks for a grand night but in the end, their flaws get accentuated and their efforts, downplayed by the eternally judgemental crowd that occupies the Convocation hall during the Cultural Week and later writes confessions on the facebook page. On behalf of the members, a rather remarkable set of efforts goes in switching from songs to songs and costumes to costumes within a challenging span of almost 2 hours. This time in Jashn'15, for instance, each performer covered nearly 8-10 songs, fighting off the chaotic mayhem in a whirlwind of activities backstage.

With 'Saawan aaya hai', the dancers flaunted their most vaulting stomp and backflips in an impressive lyrical hip-hop. The gracefully bendy duet on 'Keep bleeding in love' was yet another performance to relegate others to sidelines, perhaps also because it threw a lot of singles into retrospection. After some long forgotten, yet catchy Bollywood chartbusters, just when one started to wander off (leave?) discussing the meaning of life and the mildly mysterious price of Rs. 6 for Butter in their Mess, the much awaited slick numbers of 'Devil mere yaar' and 'Lovely' catered to the sore eyes of a majority of Y-chromosomed audience. The section also made a creative attempt through a sand dance and a shadow dance portraying magic-depiction. Despite everything, unlike the years that have long passed by, this time the response of audience was no way close to commensurate with the outrageously high popularity quotient of the show attracting that attracted nearly half the population of IITR. After the end of second hour, the show unfolded into a subtle mix of dance moves and the nostalgia of the members of final year of the section.



The judgemental sophomore from our institute might argue that signature steps from the usual genres- some bollywood wiggles, a fusion Bhangra, a South Indian number and a contemporary duet- were bolted together without much rhythmic wit or innovation. It should however be noted that the amount of dedication and efforts that gets down in bringing a show like Jashn alive from the students of a technical institute, is quite large. Their performance might not exactly translate their dance as a 'hidden language of soul' or as a quintessential form of art. To this, the Secretary of Choreo and Dance Section, Soumya Mishra (Architecture, IV) rightly remarks with a wide smile, "Everybody screws up on stage. Even the best of the dancers. But it's not about that. The show is called Jashn: The celebration. It's about going out there on stage, being yourself and enjoying to the fullest. That's what we do!"

Nevertheless, ranking the show is a heavily flawed exercise because it's simply unfair to quantify a section's effort against another one with an entirely different domain. Jashn'15, however should serve as a lesson to the upcoming choreographers of the section to keep a check on the length of the show and prevent the nostalgia of the final year members dominating the overall impact on the audience of IITR



**WHEN  
STRUCTURES  
BECOME  
SHACKLES**

Our institute, in some moments of acute apophenia of an overly enthusiastic Mechanical Engineering undergrad, can be visualized as a machine with innumerable gears running in mysterious synchronization. It is indeed commendable, for those men in the white building who have managed to disentangle the channel and jurisdiction of work despite its bizarre oddities. The issue however, gets raised over the efficiency and accuracy of the existing channels. Bureaucratic barriers, induced by the lethargy of employees and combined with a stereotypical atmosphere of the infamous government office, creates a painful experience for a student trying to pave his way through the process. At many points, the pedantic nature of the administration make the accomplishment of even the rudimentary tasks tedious and time-consuming.

Watch Out! News Agency hence tries to point out the flaw in this existing machinery and explore the ways in which the splices can be removed to make the campus a better place to live. In the due process we mainly encounter the three frontiers of student community who have been fighting a constant, yet meaningless battle with the shenanigans of the administration: the technical groups (comprising of FSAE, Robocon and KNOx), the Cultural Council and the Students' Affairs Council.

### **Extreme Trajectory Hazard: FSAE, Robocon, KNOx**

It feels good that all those creative minds who, as toddlers were fascinated with the game of Mechanix made their way to this premiere institute where they now have spanners and grease on their hands. This campus is the home ground to various technical groups where students transform their ideas and innovations into reality. SAE is the umbrella organisation, under which functions: Team Robocon, FSAE and Team KNOx. These groups participate in the competitions where they are pitted against innumerable colleges across the country. Time over time these groups have done groundbreaking work and held their ground even in the worst circumstances but the last academic year did prove to be a disappointment for all the three groups.

These groups function on the money received from sponsorship from various companies as well as the funds provided by the Alumni of the college. Roughly at the beginning of the autumn semester of 2014, the administration passed a decree to shut down all the Alumni funding of these groups and make the Institute the lone benefactor of these projects. At that time this came as relief to the groups and they submitted a budget, waiting for approval. However, after much deliberation this decision was overruled and the norms were restored to the older ones. "A lot of time was lost due to this deadlock and we were far behind our schedules", said Aman Gupta, finance secretary of Team KNOx; the team had to skip a year of competition at BAJA SAE India. Similar was the fate of Team Robocon and FSAE as well.

The imposition of the ban on alumni funding has been the result of complains from the alumni regarding the inability to maintain the account of the money being invested by them for the benefit of the students. Although the confrontation is legit, it is outright atrocity on the part of the institute to address it by withholding all the technical groups responsible for it.

Somewhere there is a lack of trust between the students and the administrations and that prevents the students from triumphing to their potential. "If funds can be allotted to the Hobbies Club, they can be provided to the technical groups like us as well", said Prakhar Agrawal, secretary of Team Robocon, who asserted that strategizing the entire process of procurement of funds is the solution to the problem and not these point-blank prohibitions.

## The Cult Conundrum

Each member of the cult knows enough sorcery to be able to cast a spell on the muggles of the R-land when life gets terribly mundane by the excellent show of their skills. The cultural society does constitute a major chunk of the student activity in the college and these aficionados of art play a pivotal role in making life interesting in IITR. Be it dance, music, drama and many others; the final demonstration in front of the audience, needs back-breaking practice hours. However there is more to it. These guys have to do a lot more to run the errands around this place. Things pertaining to permissions and approvals, which are tedious and can be comfortably termed as redundant.

The major issue is regarding the permission to use the department, or the LHC for any activity. The lecture rooms of any department can be used only till 8 o'clock in the evening and not more. Since, the classes are extended till six; it leaves just an hour to sum up the entire thing. This comes as a great displeasure to many. "The administration does not let us use the rooms and the auditorium beyond 8 pm which is very inconvenient, most of the events start at 6.30 pm. Now that the in time for girls has been extended to 11 pm, it would be ideal if they could start trusting us with the keys thereby letting us conduct our events between 8 pm and 11 pm. This would also encourage students who are a part of NSO to attend our events", said Dhannush Hangal, the secretary of the Literary Section. Similar is the discontent of all the groups who have to use the department facility for conducting intro talks and the interview tests.

The time constraint is primarily due to the fact that the caretakers, who need to attend to the activities in the department, are officially employed till six. There isn't a mechanism which can mandate them to stay beyond the working hours. This often leads to payments which are made out of the student's pockets to make them stay till the undertakings are over. The amount is meagre but unjustified, nonetheless. Even to get this 90 minutes window, one has to go up a directorial ladder, obtaining permissions at each level. After checking for availability with the OC maintenance, the permission to use a classroom has to go through two stages of approvals from the faculty advisors; only to land on the HOD's desk, who has the final discretion over the matter.

Many of the other facilities which should ideally be at the disposal of the students are made chargeable. For instance, a sum of money, which amounts to around Rs. 1500-2000 is meant to be paid to the maintenance facility for using the OP Jain Auditorium. The money needs to be pooled in by the students first and is reimbursed later by the cultural council. If the money is to be transferred between two departments of the institute itself, the need for the students to manually intermediate the process is dispensable. "A huge amount is to be paid for booking the auditorium, which I think is unnecessary for the students of the institute, to the least. These facilities are open for the students in IITD, as and when they need it and not after running the application through three signing faculties, which takes a couple of days", said Akshay Agrawal, the secretary of Dramatics Section.

A lot of problems are believed to be solved by the opening of the new Multi Activity Centre in the vicinity of RKB. But it doesn't end here. An underlying fact that needs to be understood by the relevant authorities is that the system needs to be freed from the current bureaucratic entanglements. Students need to be trusted with the property of the institute so that its resources can be utilised efficiently. Power to the students, just enough, such that they have the liberty to make decisions like when and where to practice, is necessary to increase the quality of the output. The current levels of hierarchy in the white-colored house, contribute more to increasing the perplexity of the process than systematizing it.

### **The Myth of Student Representation**

It is matter of great concern and sincere introspection for IITR administration when one of the student representatives openly admits the following statement: "There is no such thing as Student Representation in IITR". The candid frankness combined with the weight of the position from where the aforementioned statement originates, effectively suspends all hopes of a positive change that an average IITR student dreams of in his campus. "The administration encourage students to give ideas but it's up to them whether they choose to welcome it or not", remarks Rajveer Jaat, Treasurer (SAC 2014-15). In an extended conversation with the Treasurer, we also got a chance to ponder upon the attitude of the administration towards the student activities that are organized in IITR. "Macroscopically, if you'll see then you would observe that students are doing the work and professors are guiding them. Reality is that anything that is happening around you is being done with the permission of a professor. For instance, if Cultural Society decides to do something then it is doing it their advisor's way, not on their own. Independence is missing everywhere. Even the Professors among themselves praise each other after a successful event instead of praising the students for the efforts they've put in", adds Rajveer.

The attitude of the administration is evident from looking at the long bureaucratic procedures involved in getting a simple permission any random activity on the campus. The elected student representative in question, attributes this to the lack of trust displayed by the IITR administration on the students. "Our institute does not believe in the students. Not at all. Administration doesn't think that we are responsible adults. There is a trust issue. Unless you have a signature or forward from a faculty, the Dean office would reject your application", says the Treasurer, when asked about what would it take for an ordinary student to get approval for a student activity. "If at all you approach them with some idea of event or initiative, they would ask you to come via a certain student body. This means that your idea shall pass through a faculty advisor. If it survives, even then there's a big possibility that your event or idea might be scrapped citing some reason that they think is correct. This de-motivates the student".



## Breaking Free

The Multi-Activity Centre, even after a rather unorthodox architecture (we acknowledge the fact that any random Archi guy would use a better adjective) emerges as a boon to the plight of Quizzing and Music section. It is also believed that even Choreography and Dance section will get a proper room to practise for their performances and, without a doubt, for their farewell function. On a serious note, the emergence of MAC is one of the most important things that have been achieved in this academic year and is set to have a defining impact on the quality of student activities we see today.

The future of technical groups like FSAE and Robocon also hangs at a delicate point. The faculty members serving as the guardians of these sections should accept the tenacity of the enthusiasm that binds the members together. The students on the other hand need to be sensible enough when it comes to the size of the funding they demand. It becomes crucial that the encouragement and appreciation they are expecting from the administration would take its time and hence measures for availing the funds from them should be made in small steps.

It is evident from the frustration of students occupying the central position in the SAC that the day when the administration will openly admit the faults in the system and take concrete steps in revamping it, are far far away. We might not exactly be living in a dystopian, almost-Orwellian universe as much as many vocal students might choose write on public forums, but indeed the sense of an abstract lethargy can be experienced when one heckles with the system for a small favor. Speculations suggest that the next semester will see the appointment of a technical secretary in the SAC, who will represent these technical groups in the assembly. Only time will tell whether this would actually help the engineers or impede the already sluggish administrative machinery of IITR.

## ALMOST FAMOUS: DIPANSHU CHAUDHARY



In a place like IIT which is accused of churning out clones of corporate slaves year after year, it is indeed rare to come across somebody like **Dipanshu Chaudhry** of Civil, 4th year. Passion prevails over practice for Dipanshu. A feature in the Rolling Stones magazine, multiple gigs at festivals all over India, his own youtube channel and a steadily increasing number of fans; he is all set to leave college and engineering for good to start pursuing his musical dreams.

**Watch Out** had the privilege of having a rather remarkable conversation with him, made all the more interesting by the fact that he kept bursting into song at regular intervals, playing along on his ukulele.

**WONA: Well, here's the clichéd first question. Your first crush?**

DC: Abhinor Dhull. And then, there was something ~~a lot~~ happening parallely.

**WONA : Take us through your musical journey.**

DC: I learnt to play the guitar in class 7 on a guitar that was originally my sister's. But my first year was when I realized and learnt what good music really is and fell in love with it. Thereafter, I started participating in festivals in Mussoorie (Celeste) and Jaisalmer. To be covered by the Rolling Stones Magazine (Feb., 2014 issue) was another highlight; I might even play in Celeste next year. Now I frequently perform gigs in bars and pubs.

**WONA : Have you ever undergone professional training of any sort?**

DC: Youtube is the source of all the training I have ever needed. I play the guitar, mouth organ, keyboard and even a little bit of percussion (drums and cajon). I am learning to play the violin at the moment. (*Are you sure that's all, Stevie Wonder?*)

**WONA: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?**

DC: I see myself travelling. I do not want to settle down. I want to organize fests and make street music famous. My first album will probably be a mixture of English, Hindi and Punjabi songs. You see, language isn't a barrier.

**WONA: If given a break in Bollywood, would you accept it?**

DC: Well, I wouldn't say no.

**WONA : What do you dislike about IITR?**

DC: In our first year when there was no internet, life was more interesting. Students would gather in a common room and have fun, talk about life and play games. Today everyone is just glued to their laptops because everyone has LAN.

I also think there should be a ~~Smoking~~ Sandwich Zone. That way people who don't like sandwiches can stay away. After all sandwiches aren't illegal, even though eating a delicious sandwich in public is frowned upon. *(We wonder how the admin would react to that)*

**WONA: What is the craziest thing that you've done during your stay at IITR?**

DC: *(rattles off a long list of which we were hard pressed to pick only two)* In our first year, my friend and I bought a 40-50 m long cable and connected the LAN at RKB to Cautley, where I lived. I got reprimanded for it though I could never get why. I bought my own LAN cable and was trying to use facilities that should have been provided to me anyway.

Then there was this one time *(at band camp?)*, on my way back from Dharamshala, I realized that I was completely out of cash. It took me around, and I am not kidding, fifty lifts to get here. That was crazy!

**WONA: What do you think of the music section at IITR?**

DC: It is better than those of many colleges. Really active and filled with hard-working enthusiasts. For instance, my senior, Karthik Vishishth was an amazing classical singer. I would watch him perform on the stage and be in complete awe of his talent.

**WONA : What do you think was your best performance till date?**

DC : Every performance is special in its own way and I try to better myself with each. I had the opportunity to represent IITR at PanIIT in Kolkata. Every IIT had sent a video and we got selected. But since Baba O'Riley at Dhun this year was my last performance at IITR, I'd say that it was my best. *(Having had the privilege of witnessing that, we would concur)*

**WONA: ...and any other interests?**

DC: I was a black belt holder in Taekwondo and was into that before college. I played football when I first came here, but a fracture ended that journey for me in the first year itself. I would have liked to be in Drams too, I think I would have been good at that.

**WONA : What would you like to say to the people at IITR?**

DC: People in Cultural Council groups rarely ever compete outside of college in, say, Battle of Bands competitions or dance competitions. I see very few people who have the heart to take risks and follow their passions.

**WONA: What do you think of WONA?**

DC: It's a good magazine. I read it if a friend hands it to me. *(Honored, we are!)*



## Watch Out! Career Series: Abhijit Nimgaonkar

Abhijit Nimgaonkar holds the position of a partner in ZS Associates, which is a consulting firm. An '81 batch, Electrical and Electronics Engineering graduate from BITS Pilani and one of the most experienced names in the domain of Management Consultancy, Mr. Nimgaonkar is in-charge of the India Operations of the firm and heads the office of ZS in Pune.

We present the transcript of a discussion we had with him over a cup of coffee during Cognizance 2015, pertaining to the work of a management consultant, his life in the corporate world and the students of IITR. *Career Series* is Watch Out!'s initiative to guide the soon-to-be graduate IITR junta in making a sound career choice. One of the first entries in the series, in conversation with Mr. Nimgaonkar:

### **Can you tell us something about Management Consultancy and the kind of job that a Management Consultant does?**

You must be aware about the terms called Mathematical Modeling and Data Analysis. In simple words, it is basically trying to reach a conclusion using data. It is applied to a wide range of Marketing and Sales related areas. That is simple maths. You might have a particular opinion about a particular sales or strategy. But how can you back that opinion or advice with facts and analysis that support those facts? That's what you call Business consulting. There are business decisions that need to be made very quickly and incorporate this fact based and analysis based approach. For instance, in sales and marketing space you got to own the entire space. This can be done by making the sales people smarter about their job and for that they need information that can be used by the same to woo the customers and convince them to buy your product. This may come through identifying the right customers, having correct information to talk to them intelligently and convincing them. Technology is used to do that, which is also termed as Technical consultancy.

In the middle of that there is an operational practice too. We do analysis on the back-end data, procured through various channels, and provide digested information that can be fed to the sales people, the managers etc. For mass audience you need these operations and technological solutions. For business consulting, it is about answering a question for Vice President of Marketing or Vice President of Sales which is a higher level of decision making. Management Consultancy is a union of all these three sets.

### **Can you tell us something about your early days in this domain?**

I graduated from BITS Pilani in Electrical and Electronics Engineering in 1981. After that, I did a job in a software company where I used to set up mainframe computers. After serving 4-5 years in that firm I joined ZS, which was a start-up at that point. I wasn't very sure about joining it, but after I met the founder Prabhakant Sinha, an IIT-Kgp graduate and the then Professor in Kellogg School of Management I agreed to it. At that point, I was working on a project that involved writing the 911 system for the city of Miami. I left that after its completion and joined the newly founded 20 membered firm. This brought both a challenge and an opportunity in my life. Now, in retrospect, I believe that it was one of the wisest decisions I ever made.

### **What are mistakes that you observe that people make at undergraduate level?**

What I observe is that people are very impatient. I am not sure if that's just the IITs or your entire millennial generation but people wish to try a lot of new things very early in their lives. They are impatient and many times their aspirations can turn out to be unrealistic.

I have a slightly different philosophy from what you might hear from the mainstream entrepreneurs and visionaries. I consciously try to manage a balance between new ideas and expertise. Something that I have realized over time is that: Innovation depends on expertise. And expertise depends on a mundane word called repetition. Practising what you've learnt makes you a true expert and that applies to even when you're in academia or pursuing entrepreneurship.

### According to you, what has been the key to your success?

I've just been very lucky. But there are a few other things that play an equally important role:

You have to believe, first of all, in what you're doing. The hard-work, the sincerity eventually pay-off but there are times when the pressure can get to you. Especially when you're in a fast growth mode. But if you are persistent enough and remain focused, then I believe that success follows.

### What are the future prospects of Management Consultancy in India?

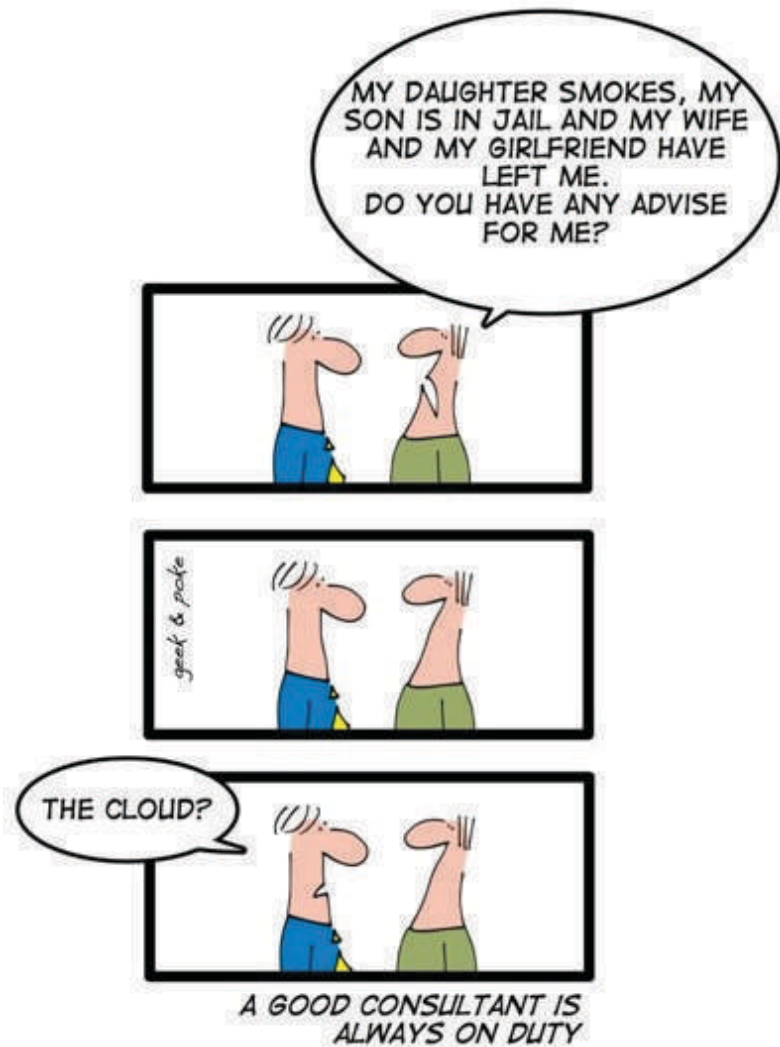
Management consultancy, 25 years ago was very different from what it is now and I think that the change is going to continue that way. We have now small teams doing work in India that was once sold as a big consulting project 10 years ago. There has been an explosion of data. You must be familiar with the phrase of Big Data.

In short, it is a set of information that can be characterised with a lot parameters and variables. Today, all sorts of decisions are driven by hard-core data that is collected over the internet through you and me. That data is making Amazon find out what book you'd like to read to what strategic decision that needs to made by a company. All of us are in the business of that and hence, the challenge here is to find out ways to handle that data. For instance, there's a client who submits us his business problems through web and it in itself becomes a consulting project for us. The strategy-making for a company has departed from being a traditional quarterly or half-yearly event to a much more exciting, real-time process. In the core of it, I think that what we call Management consulting might change but the business problems would remain the same.

### What are the characteristics of a person that are needed to succeed in this domain?

There are 3 characteristics of a good consultant: Treat people right. Do the right thing. And get the things right. People are the greatest assets in this area and one has got to give respect to each and every person he/she deals with. It is something that lies in the core of any good consultant. Apart from this, we face a lot of competition and in this age it is very crucial for a person to be honest and sincere towards the work.

Adding to that, a person might be very honest and courteous but after that it is extremely crucial for a consultant to be analytical about a problem. Dealing with ambiguity, thinking through the problems and being confident about the facts before making decision, separates a good consultant from a mediocre one.



## IT'S RAINING FESTS



Roorkee is hardly the party popping, club hopping destination one dreams of in his JEE days. Apart from the occasional trip or two to Rishikesh, the social calendar, as a rule, remains bone dry. Things, however, seem to have taken a turn for the better. A quick glance at the academic calendar shows a jam packed spring semester with a new fest sprouting up every other weekend. While Cognizance and Thomso come close to being established names in the fest circuit, the rest still struggle to find their footing.

The festivals of Roorkee follow a rigid system of hierarchy. As the month of March draws closer, an average freshman at IITR can be found glued to his phone calling up participants and sponsors a dime a dozen, sending out daily pleas for likes on the official page and dogging seniors for chapos. The aforementioned seniors likewise, can be found dodging chapo claims and bossing around all who fall lower in the chain of command. Conversation around campus becomes nigh impossible without at least a fleeting mention of the fests. Going by the same old gibber about how one fest trashes another, we are all critics in our own silly way and we just can't help but make noise.

### The Resolution

Sankalp set the ball rolling in early February. The organization team was hurriedly convened at the beginning of the semester. With hardly any time on their hands and neither the financial muscle nor the organizational experience to make up for it, Sankalp was fated to be doomed from the start. With only the brand name of IIT Roorkee to tide it over, the fest managed to score a measly participation of 300. Drove of NSS volunteers were bullied into attending the guest lectures which otherwise would have opened to empty halls much like routine 8AM lectures.

Sankalp this year, akin to its previous edition, passed away as another weekend spent nursing hangovers and catching up on TV shows for the majority of the IITR population. The only newsworthy occurrence was an infamous panel discussion on LGBT rights which gave Sankalp its two minutes of fame.

The organizing committee claims that Sankalp is at its nascent stages and is currently more focused on spreading social awareness on issues than on coming up with pragmatic solutions for the same. But well meaning initiatives like stem cell donation drives and Raahgiri fall flat on their faces when after three days of what they call diligent campaigning, more than half the campus is none the wiser about the same.

On the whole there is no dispute to the fact that Sankalp, with its message of social conscience is the need of the hour. And the NSS is to be duly commended on its efforts to put the social cause in the spotlight. But when the frugality in participation and managerial glitches far outnumber the positives, the legitimacy and logistics of the fest have to be questioned.

## The Universe

While it is yet to be labelled a fest, Srishti, this year, valiantly fought off all its naysayers, putting up a show better than any before.

This year saw a paradigm shift in the nature of organization of Srishti. Be it new devices and gadgets for each section, refreshments from Civil Lines, better faculty response and even external participation from colleges nearby, the techno-hobby exhibition set the benchmark.

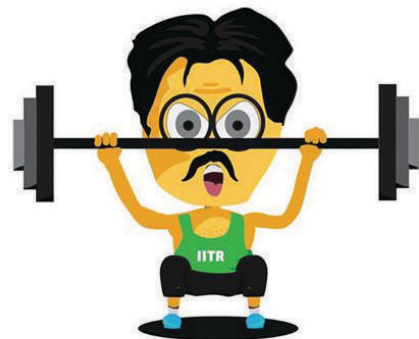
An example of this can be witnessed in the SDS Labs exhibition, which showcased the drone, the smart-watch MOTO360, 3D Video Projection, a Kinect and Robotic arm procured by the Robotics sections. Ravi Kishore Rachuri, General Secretary of the Hobbies Club credits it to increasing transparency in funding, less bureaucracy, and better faculty involvement. Like every year, the fine arts exhibition, turned out to be the crowd puller. The reconstruction of a wreck indubitably proved to be the centerpiece.

It often escapes our attention that Srishti, by virtue of its definition, is not meant to be a fest. It is a purely interest based event. Its prime motive is to ensure that the students who spend the entire year working on a project get a platform to exhibit their work. This ensures that the visiting faculty members appreciate their efforts, which, in turn, helps the Hobbies club in accruing funds for the next session. If the Deputy Director's promise of funding a new prototype for the Robotics section is a harbinger of things to come, the techno-hobbies club exhibition seems to be doing just fine.

## The Revolution

Sangram in its first edition post hiatus, exceeded all expectations attached to it. The junta of IITR was pleasantly surprised to see the campus littered with the big names like those of BITS, Pilani and IIT Kanpur.

Though no attempt was made to involve the non sporting faction into which majority of the population falls, the general atmosphere on campus was one bustling with activity. The one vice that overshadowed the organization of Sangram was the administration's apathy. The sports council stresses the importance of Sangram in conditioning the athletes for InterIIT and ensuring that even the novices get their turn in the spotlight. IIT Roorkee boasts of some of the best sports facilities in the country. Sangram is perhaps the easiest of all fests to organize. Its financial and infrastructural demands are meagre compared to other fests. As the OC engages in a rather pointless tussle with the admin for permissions to organize the next edition of Sangram, it remains to be seen what the future holds for the fest.



As is common knowledge, Sangram has a rather tumultuous track record. The fest was abandoned after two consecutive editions in 2010 and 2011 under the guise of preparations and renovations for the 49th edition of interIIT in 2012 which IITR hosted. Keeping in mind that Roorkee will play host to the same once every 7 years, one can't help wonder whether this will turn into a vicious cycle.

## The Awareness

According to a 9/11-inspired timeline of the institute where our world in Roorkee is divided into the parts of pre and post-Lip-Stick Scandal, Cognizance emerged as a rallying point for the major fest-deprived junta in the years of 2010 and 2011. From then on, it has been fondly crowned as the 2nd largest technical festival

in Asia. Although the writers of this article failed to find out the source and credibility of the aforementioned statement, we sincerely believe that we are indeed at the 1st place and calling it the 2nd is merely an act of humility displayed by the Sponsorship team of Cognizance.

Cognizance undoubtedly is the most iconic festival of IIT Roorkee. With a hard-working team stretching over the might of 4 batches and a preparation span of around 6 months, the scale of the festival is indeed something that one can brag about in front of his friends from other IITs. With an ever increasing reach and a never decreasing budget, Cognizance is usually expected to promise a whole new series of guest lectures, workshops and technical events every year.

A moment of introspection into the purpose and existence of a technical festival in an institute like IITR would reveal the immense expectations Cognizance carries on itself. In contrast to the desires of an average IITian, which gets satisfied after a Kathi Roll and a couple of alcohol induced dance moves in the ABN ground (read: Thomso), Cognizance offers something more. The quality of events in a technical festival of an engineering institution, especially in one of the country's best like IITR, directly portrays the intellect and enthusiasm towards innovation of the students.

After featuring the likes of a Swiss-Folk-Metal band and a Bollywood-ly Coke Studio, the 2015 version of Cognizance turned out to be a fun-filled college festival. Deeming it as the 'technical' festival however, would not do justice to our understanding of the same as the event lacked in many aspects when it came to the intellectual side of things. Despite a behemoth scale, almost no amount of improvement was seen in the conceptualization of new events. The age-old events featuring wooden mazes, fast moving toy-cars and small robots trying to kill each other for the entertainment of the audience and referee of the arena (who this time also happened to be the commentator, by the way) were left unperturbed. The overall footfall did increase but surprisingly, the day-events of quizzes and workshops recorded the same amount of participation as last year. Major focus was on the Techtainment nights for obvious reasons, out of which the main one featuring Eluveitie unluckily jeopardised by the unexpected rains.

One of the reasons for the inconsistencies observed in the objectives of individual events in Cognizance, can be attributed to the mounting expectations its organizing team faces after Thomso. People, in-general, with their own standards of judgement expect the same amount of adrenaline rush that gets derived from a cultural festival. The students need to understand that the task of comparing Cogni to the likes of Thomso, remains as mindless as finding out the winner of a wrestling match between a fire-cracker and a rubik's cube. The organizers of a fest like Cognizance, no disrespect intended honestly, should understand the difference between a fest and a technical fest for that matter. Without the shadow of doubt, the amount of hard-work the team of Cogni puts in while bringing it to life deserves an equally good amount of intellectual backing.



### The Legacy of a Fest

IITR's repertoire of fests is high on numbers and rather low on quality. It is hard to pinpoint where the exact chink in the armour lies. It might as well be a case of too many fests spoiling the broth. When individual fests do not live up to the expectations attached to them, it sounds like a good idea to combine a couple, especially when their motives overlap. For instance, Sankalp with its manifesto of using technology to aid social empowerment could be easily combined with Cognizance, the technical fest. This would mean better utilization of the task force, lesser organizational hurdles, and at the same time bring out the best out of all the fests in question to produce one big extravaganza.

When questioned on this regard, Pratik Toshniwal, Convener, Events for Cognizance 2014 remarked, "We have limitations in the number of participants and the number of events we can fit into three days. For example, the girls' hostels can accommodate to a maximum of 400. We had to turn down a lot of female participants for Cognizance for the very same reason. Combining the fests would mean issues in terms of constraints in space and logistics."

In addition to this, it will require meticulous planning and cautious execution to ensure that the individual agendas are not overshadowed. All said and done, the missing link lies not in the administration's apathy or the organizers' ineptitude, but in the incorrigible lethargy of the student community. Much like the writers of this very article, most of the IITR junta are contented with being prophets of doom, pointing out one flaw after another, more often than not, based on half baked knowledge. When a fest fails, the brunt of it usually falls on the organizing committee. A few choice comments are directed at the administration too. But what every single one of us fails to remember is that every one of us has an active responsibility to pitch in and do our bit to make the fest a success.

## DHUN'15

The cultural week began with the much awaited show of the semester by the Music Section. Much awaited, because for the first time in many years, the Open Air Theater was finalized as the hosting place for the show. A place best suited to head-bang and enjoy rock music matching the spirit with which it is played, OAT has been one of the most underutilised places in our campus. Anticipating a Battle of Bands/MJGF worthy concert, the crowd gathered on a fine Monday evening to a rock-concert worthy backdrop which was apparently crafted by the members of the Music section themselves.



The setlist of the show was exquisitely chosen with some mind-numbing tracks of 'Flying' by Anathema, 'Holy Drinker' by Steven Wilson, Madcon's 'Beggin' and 'Titanium' by Sia. The popular hindi tracks of 'Aa na', 'Jee Karda', 'Zarra Zarra' and evergreen 'Dum Maro Dum' combined with all-time favourite English rock number, 'Baba O'Riley' by The Who, promised a show that the artists of Music section had been waiting for quite some time.

Keeping in mind the excitement created by the posters for the countdown of the event, the evening sadly didn't turn out the way as it was expected. From a technical point of view, the sound-check was not done properly prior to the event. As a result, the crowd occupying a major area in front of the stage didn't experience the full impact of the music and some great performances were rendered reaction-less with almost no hint of enthusiasm from the audience. Some of the disgruntled junta of IITR after the show, attributed this incident to the mediocrity displayed by the Audio section. This however is not the first time a mishap in Music Section's performance has taken place due to the audio system.

Apart from the fundamental issue of the voice of the artists not reaching the ears of the audience, Music section continues to fight a bureaucratic battle with the Cultural Society. The lamentable state of equipments in the music room combined with a lack of proper practice on behalf of the members due to restricted timings of the section, plays a major role in the outcome of an event like this. Adding to that, it should be noted that the section gets the access to the main stage two days prior to the event which, in their opinion is nowhere near sufficient to pull off a flawless concert.

It must be understood that attributing all the blame to Audio Section is a little unfair. The musician enjoys the spotlight and the praise and in this process, Audio always takes a back-seat. Even as members, the incentives for them to work hard are quite low since the success of a concert is inevitably attributed to the dexterity of the musicians and not to the technical support crew. The overall outcome of the show was not very positive. The song, Baba O'Riley, which was meant to be the show-stopper for the evening was enjoyed by only around half of the population that was initially present.

Dhun, being the penultimate event of the Spring semester (and ultimate for a majority of seniors of the Music Section) holds an important place in the hearts of music lovers of the campus. A mishap like Dhun'15, for whatever reasons there may be, should not get repeated.



## A TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL PERK OF IITR

Last November Alpahar was shifted from the administrative block to the place earlier occupied by the University Canteen near Khosla Guesthouse. This has been a major let down because Alpahar till now was a busy snack hub for the IITR junta near the main building. For more than 30 years students had rallied around the soothing shade of trees and pigeon-crap prone benches.

Sometimes, Alpahar meant avoiding the pain of going back to Bhawans on the dog day afternoons, while at other times it simply involved clinging to the cufflinks of your magnanimous seniors since there wasn't a dime left in your wallet. Skipping a meal at your bhawan mess was never a big deal as long as you had a canteen with mouth watering food and two very hospitable people running it. The cafeteria served as a confluence point for the students involved in different professions; be it the folks involved in Cult-Soc, the SAC, the folks chatting on Senate Steps, to the Students Club or the Library.

Hidden in the recesses of the campus, Alpahar is now a ghost of its glory days. In an interview with the owner, Mr. Ashok Kumar Lakhani we found out that he received an official notice to vacate the Canteen in October last year and there was little he could do about it. Their 28 year old *métier* has taken a huge hit. It took a long while for him to gulp down the fact that the edifice upon which he had nested unopposed for the past three decades could be uprooted that easily. "My business is down to 25% of what I used to earn", said Mr. Lakhani which is sad because his frank demeanor with the students was also something that made the students more attached to that small room in the main building. He was also downhearted by the fact that the cafeteria is no longer visited by the many professors emeritus and officials who frequented the place for the evening tea.

The evacuation has been done for constructing administrative offices in the freed space. Though it seems unavoidable but it was still hoped that an alternative could have been sought. Now being the only option easily available to students, the past semester has also seen a fall in the quality to price ratio at Nescafe, the other pit stop near the EC circle. Both overpriced and low on quality, a visit after class takes a heavy toll on our pockets and we leave, munching on dry sandwiches and rudely small Samosas.

A quality university cafeteria is the need of the hour, for it is no longer possible to find one which meets the balance of quality, affordability and accessibility that Alpahar once offered. This is evident at the gaon-side messes, where the longer queues reflect the loss of a quick refreshment for those in a hurry.

## VALAR MURGA-LIS - *every non vegetarian must die*

I, as a vegetarian, always shuddered whenever I heard the familiar buzz going around every year, the one that had all those meat eating barbarians in a frenzy. And why shouldn't I have? It hurts my sensibilities when people consume protein sources that are not acceptable in my religion. I guess we had to let non-vegetarian food into the mess with democracy and all, but I am all praise for the way you had it implemented. I wholeheartedly agree with your ideas. Those brutes shouldn't be allowed to sit in the same room or eat on the same plates. And while we're doing that how about separate wells for water? I know we don't use wells much but just the idea of separate wells gets me nostalgic.

What surprised me the most was that no one complained about being segregated. But it shouldn't have. Those meat-gobblers sure are dumb! Even if they do protest just tell them that it shouldn't be a concern to them. They're being provided the same facilities, aren't they? The same tables, the same chairs, the same utensils and the food that they like, what more could anyone want? Don't worry. They'll be fooled by this. They're too stupid to have heard about the landmark Brown vs Board of Education case. Sure, the US Supreme Court ruled that it didn't matter if the segregated sections had equal facilities. That it was segregation by itself that was harmful and unconstitutional. Sure, they said that but who cares? That ruling was stupid anyway.

And it's not like we need to learn from some phoren constitution's phorteenth amendment. We have our own constitution in Roorkee. One that shuts all the girls inside by 11 pm. One that prohibits guys and girls from entering each others' hostels. One that says that girls' hostels shouldn't have balconies, because, who are we kidding? Rapunzel could totally happen in real life. Sex Education is another problem you've handled skilfully. Why teach college kids about contraception and safe sex when you know that the best way to prevent pregnancies and other STDs is to never have sex? Never ever. I don't quite agree with your decision to ban porn though. Young adults who are not allowed to have physical contact with the other sex are bound to release their frustrations in other ways. There can be a lot of manifestations of this frustration like angry YouTube comments and poking strangers on facebook.

Anyway, I'm digressing. I can go on for hours and hours about how much I love your policies, but the real reason I'm writing to you is because I have a request to make. I belong to a small but growing religious sect that worships potatoes and prohibits harming the potato plant in any way. You see, we believe that the Great Almighty Lord Bob, or Bob the Builder as he's affectionately known to his followers, was eating potato salad when few of the pieces fell to the ground. Since the pieces of potato had touched Bob's magical fork, they sprouted limbs and a heart, and a brain and became the first human beings to walk the earth. You can now see how the thought of eating potatoes horrifies us. It is technically cannibalism. But as you may already know through your very frequent inspections in the Bhawan messes, potatoes are shown no mercy here. It feels like these murderers have a conviction to hurt the emotions of our goody goody community who are doing the world so much good by opting not to eat potatoes. Where is their moral fiber? Have they cooked it too? This letter is my humble request to prohibit the usage of potatoes inside the campus or at the least build separate messes and mark those filthy potato eaters with a tattoo on the forehead. I hope I haven't asked much.

## GROUP HOROSCOPES

By Jabtakhaijaan Chaiwaala

Music – The Sapta Rishi (kesh) graces you with His divine presence and psychedelic experiences come aplenty. The feeling of disquiet when you scream hard while no one actually listens (or can listen), like in the midst of some nightmare, might return every time Pluto confronts Saptarshi. The only tranquilizers shall be the likes on profile pictures from Dhun, expected to increase in direct proportion to the number of pretentious snobs enthusiastically clicking photos using a DSLR, of course. Guitar is predicted to be ranked as the most effective chick magnet for this year too.

Tip - Remember, the grass is always greener on the other side.

Dramatics – Owing to Lord Kuber's benevolence, everyday essentials such as cough syrup, Safi, garlic and pepper prices are bound to go down this year. Refrain from consuming butter, ice cream and sour food round the year and you will be blessed with even louder baritones.

Tip – You may need to fend off from the fury of Baba Nohymndas if found chanting incoherent mantras at the end of otherwise endurable performances.

Choreography – The stars are in perfect alignment for a once-in-every 167-year perfectly aligned performance. Thus, you are probably due for a bit of a comeback (with well fastened lungis, of course) after the “collective” misfortunes. Charming Lord Shiva with a few more lifts may land you in Dance Roorkee Dance, as soon as it initiates. Acharya Bakchand invariably blesses you for the adept patrons that you make for the grapevine industry.

Tip – Type “So you think you can dance” on your browser's address bar. You can thank us later.

Spic Macay- Your seemingly interminable search for aficionados of Indian art and culture ought to reap rewards this year. A switch from pop culture to the traditional forms will take place when the stars form an image of Ustad Popnomore in the sky. If the moon turns green in daylight, you will find more patrons among students this year.

Tip – You might want to try unorthodox measures to attract audience. Try Blue posters, for instance, instead of the traditional yellow ones.

PM, Audio, Lights – Pluto's presence in your house, combined with the performances in Dhun and Jashn, have led to a debate on your way of functioning. This might be the time to invest in a Rudraksh or better equipment. Baba Blacksheep suggests forming a collaboration.

Tip – Subcontracting may prove worthwhile.

SDSLabs- Things are looking good for the herd (or nerd?) cramped up in their little corners writing millions of lines of codes or the hirsute designers using bootlegged illustrator. The Jupiter being in Orion ensures you will not face hard time updating yourself with new worldly phenomena unlike muzi or your home page. Firing less people this year might improve your image.

Tip - Your vision & code won't fail as long as you do not step out of your extravagant dungeon.

<i>Aries</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Taurus</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Gemini</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Cancer</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Leo</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Virgo</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Libra</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Scorpio</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Sagittarius</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Capricorn</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Aquarius</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.
<i>Pisces</i>	The stars and planets will not affect your life in any way.

CineSec: Goddess Laxmi may be a blessing in disguise (along with one or two DSLRs, maybe). This can finally lead to some functioning of this group and usher the campus with quirky rip offs of the far west. Surfing through some YouTube videos can help build some ideas.

Tip: Baba Chaiwaala recommends purchasing the Nazar Suraksha Kavach® to ward off any “misunderstandings” about the group.

EDC: The interchangeability of the words EDC and TEDx will go on increasing. Baba Sachbol, keeping in mind the welfare of the students, suggests you stop sharing the 1.x crore turnover stories.

Tip- Make the most out of the members you recruit after such lengthy and demanding interviews.

IMG: The rising number of lost I-Cards, calculators, hearts, virginities and underwear on Lost&Found may add to the curse on Channel-i. New improvements on the website might help in recovering from your sarkari image. You can prevent Lord Shiva from opening His third eye by chanting Om 108 times a day and keeping the website updated.

Tip- A key to Music Section’s inventory may prove to be a major stress-buster.






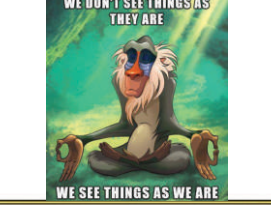






FSAE/Robocon/KNOX/ASME/etc.: Walking to the gloomy workshops, amidst solitary sabbaticals, in multi-coloured aprons may not help you find results in your endeavours until you find the map to IITR’s hidden treasure (which might eventually help with your fundings). Your copious efforts do not change the ignorance you face from an essential part of the campus (read: women) in this Technical institute.

Tip: Looking at the monetary help you get from the institute, a sacred ceremony involving a couple of sacrifices in front of the main building might help you out.

## TRIBUTE

# WATCH OUT! BATCH OF 2014

(if they had their Pokemon cards)

<p><b>Siva Samhit Vaddiparthi</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: Enticing voice Evolved from: Ali Noor Habitat: Old Nesci</p>	<p><b>Arun Chetty</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: Hair attack Evolution: Arun to Chetty to Homo Special Ability: Minimal design</p>	<p><b>Shashank Mehta</b></p>  <p>Habitat: Mostly in SDS Labs. But also, competitions with a lot of prize money. Signature Move: Veto on Mondays. Special Abilities: Being Single and Coding for food.</p>	<p><b>Rishika Sinha</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: F-bomb Habitat: Students Club Special Ability: General knowledge</p>
<p><b>Shivam Mangla</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: Seductive dance moves. Habitat: Menlo Park. Special Ability: Facebook mein PPO.</p>	<p><b>Sidharth Sadani</b></p>  <p>Habitat: Bookshelves of MGCL Special Abilities: Can get a person to reevaluate his life in 3 sentences. Evolution: He is the highest stage of human evolution.</p>	<p><b>Mannat Gupta</b></p>  <p>Evolved from: Thesaurus Rex Special Ability: Lobbying</p>	<p><b>Sunil Nair</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: Football kicks Evolution: Knighthood</p>
<p><b>Nipun Sawhney</b></p>  <p>Signature Move: A tree, a leaf and an idea. Habitat: Can be found inside the nearest incubation centre. Special Ability: Selling objects that have multiple purposes.</p>	<p><b>Anisha Grover</b></p>  <p>Habitat: On weekends, can be found on campus in her car. Signature Move: She's got a car on campus. You really reading this?</p>	<p><b>Muskan Rajoria</b></p>  <p>Evolution: Rajoria to Wayne to Rajoria Special ability: Philosophically deep one-liners like 'okie dokie aloo Loki'.</p>	<p><b>Jyotika Khatri</b></p>  <p>Habitat: Most likely to be found with Anisha. Special Ability: Can pull off random colored boots with grace. (See! We didn't even mention those Red Boots!)</p>

## CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS : YELLOW LIGHT DISTRICT

The countenance of IITR campus at 2.30 a.m. is a sight in itself. There have been innumerable times in the past three years when I have walked over Amod Path in wee hours of night from gaaon, and have just stood at NIH circle, admiring the grandeur of the path leading up to the library. Our campus is an entirely different place in the night and I am more than certain that I am not the first insomniac to experience that. In many of such solitary walks in the campus I have found myself pondering over the past, the present and the future of Watch Out! The chain of thoughts, forming its way through the heavy-sounding words of legacy, sincerity and responsibility, always ends over a plethora of new ideas that I get almost every day for the group. One of the few things that I experienced before the beginning of my tenure was that the installation of LAN and the introduction high-speed internet in all the hostels. This created a subtle change in dynamics of IITR campus. The need for a proper media body that could cater to the problems of the students and analyse the decisions of the administration, was felt more than ever. As I observed the way in which our group had evolved over time, I realized that the change from Watch Out!, a group that meets once in a weekend and writes once a semester in magazine which barely reaches a 1000 lucky folks, to Watch Out!, the voice of IITR, would be a gradual one. The steadiness and speed of this evolution were the features that I had to show my proper respect, so as to ensure that the group remained more than a bunch of individuals ranting about the broken toilets of Govind and the dysfunctional canteen of Rajendra Bhawan. I don't know if I succeeded completely but the whole process of stepping up our game was enthralling. Right now, as this group enters the 23rd year of its existence, going from a wall magazine to a printed one to a fully functional website, I am more than optimistic about its role in the future course of events.

The prime focus of the current members should be on the website that has a large untapped potential. Efforts should be made in the direction of collaboration with various sections and student groups. SAC in my opinion has always lacked the intellectual muscle and verbosity to deal with the administration due to reasons that are better left unsaid. This gap created by a lack of political acumen of the elected representatives can be filled by Watch Out!. A videography cell, in collaboration with Cinematic Section, can also help in reaching out to a large group of audience in an efficient manner. At the end of the day, however, the website should remain the prime source of all the action. The group as a whole has a long way to go and needs to ensure the consistency as well as the quality of the work that is done.

Watch Out! indeed has become an integral part of my life. Surprisingly, the notion of writing my last column for the magazine brings a rather dubious form of relief considering that I have dedicated a majority of my time and peace of mind for numerous interviews and countless quotes over the last 3 years. But that's how I have always been with any endeavour that I have taken up in my life. So, the time has come when I must make way for a new generation of free-thinkers who, in the present scenario, must have the intellect to ask the right questions and bridge the gap that gets created in our institute due to a lack of effective communication. I am more than optimistic about the future of Watch Out! and firmly believe that the coming generation will keep up the good work.

Many honourable and cleverer men have stood at the point where I currently am and have painted this canvass with the words that have rendered people speechless. At this point, with my ordinary writing skills, I can only thank the people around me who showed faith in my abilities and trusted my decisions. I have basically grown up with Watch Out!.

Thank you WONA, for all the great memories.

Abhijeet Gaur  
Chairman (2014-15)



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