

IISER KOLKATA NEWSLETTER



August, 2023

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata (IISERK) is an Institute of National Importance established as an autonomous institute for higher education by the then Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education), Government of India, to promote high-quality education and research in basic sciences. It is one of the seven Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research and is one of the first IISERs to be established along with IISER Pune. In terms of research output, it is considered to be one of the leading institutes in India.

- Dr. Neelanjana Sengupta and Prof. Sayan Bhattacharyya have received the Chemical Research Society of India (CSRI) Bronze Medal 2024.
- Dr. Tarun Kumar Dalai has been awarded a fellowship under the “FY2023JSPS Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan”.
- Prof. Sayan Bhattacharyya has been nominated as reviewer and mentor for Tata Steel in the Material NEXT 4.0 event 2023.
- Prof. Sayan Bhattacharyya has been nominated as a member (2022) and Chairman (2023) of the Expert Committee for SERB-ASIAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund (AISTDF). He has been associated as a Co-opted Member of the Programme Advisory Committee, and Inorganic and Physical Committee of SERB since 2021.



IISER Kolkata participated in the 26th National Science Exhibition held from 24-27 August 2023 in Salt Lake Central Park, Kolkata. On display were science exhibits, live experiments and outreach posters ranging from Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Mathematics, Physics and Space Sciences. A large number of IISER students and a few staff members participated in outreach activities coordinated by the faculty members. The IISER booth saw a large footfall and sparked intense interest amongst students and the visiting public.



On the 24th of August 2023, a remarkable event unfolded at the IISER Kolkata campus. The IISER Kolkata Campus Radio, in collaboration with Swarnendu Saha and Archita Sarkar, orchestrated the grand spectacle known as "Smarane Rabindranath 2023." This event held a special place in the heart of the IISER Kolkata community, having been an integral part of the institution's cultural calendar for many years. However, this year was unique as it marked the first time when students, teachers, family members of the faculty, and, most notably, the dedicated staff community, and Ek Peהל - the IISER student-run NGO, joined forces to create a two-hour cultural extravaganza. The evening was a fusion of recitations, soulful singing, captivating music, and mesmerizing dance performances, transcending age barriers and bringing everyone together in the spirit of celebration.



Prof. Sayam Sen Gupta has been selected for the National Awards to Teachers 2023. The award ceremony is scheduled to be held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 5th September, 2023. It is heartening to note that he shares this prestigious award with 12 other academicians from all parts of India.



Prof. Tapas Kumar Sengupta of the Department of Biological Sciences and Mr. Swarnendu Saha, one of the Chief Operating Officers of IISER Kolkata Campus Radio represented the institute in the panel discussion on G20-related programme by Akashvani Kolkata, organized by Akashvani Kolkata (All India Radio - Kolkata) on August 14, 2023, at AIIMS Kalyani. The whole programme has been broadcast on the Television Channel of Prasar Bharati, as well as, the YouTube channel of All India Radio.



Prof. Swadhin Mandal met IISER Alumni at Ohio State University.



IISER Kolkata celebrated the 77th Independence Day of India on August 15, 2023, on its campus. After the National Flag hoisting followed by the National Anthem, the Director, Prof. Prasanta Kr. Panigrahi addressed the community. Students were awarded for their grand success in the last Inter-IISER Sports Meet. A Freedom Run was organized and the programme ended with a plantation drive.



There has been a live webcast of the soft landing of Chandrayaan 3 Vikram by the Institute at its M.N. Saha Auditorium from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM on August 23, 2023.

A pledge-taking ceremony was organised to mark the Angdaan Mahotsav on Indian Organ Donation Day, August 03, 2023.

Seminars and Colloquia

[CESSI Seminar] Dr. Saikat Chatterjee (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden) -- DANSE: Data-driven Nonlinear State Estimation in Unsupervised Learning, Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023.

[Bibha Chowdhuri Memorial Lecture] Prof. Aditi Sen De (Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad) -- Quantum Networks, Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023.

[CCES Webinar] Dr. Ajay Kumar (Scientist, Basin Modelling, Helmholtz Centre Potsdam, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences) -- Role of lithospheric-scale geological inheritance in the continental lithosphere dynamics, Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023.

[Institute Colloquium] Prof. Shekhar Mande (Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune) -- Tracing the Journey of Biomedical Sciences in India, Wednesday, Aug 02, 2023.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Matthew Cushman (Hunter College, NY) -- Introduction to Model Categories, Tuesday, Aug 08, 2023.

[CESSI Seminar] Saugata Barat (University of Amsterdam) -- V1298 Tau: A window into planet formation and early evolution, Tuesday, Aug 08, 2023



Inauguration of the Partition Horrors Remembrance Exhibition and Paanch-Pran Pledge-Taking Ceremony.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Hemanta Kumar Kundu (Weizmann Institute of Science) -- Anyonic Interference in a Mach-Zehnder Interferometer, Tuesday, Aug 08, 2023.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Mukul Bhattacharya (Pennsylvania State University), Wednesday, Aug 09, 2023.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Jin-Ichi Itoh (Sugiyama Jogakuen University) -- Cut Locus & Intuitive Geometry, Thursday, Aug 10, 2023.

[CCES Seminar] Dr. Sunil Mundra (Department of Biology, College of Science, United Arab Emirates University) -- Understanding the microbiome diversity of root and soil using an environmental sequencing approach: Key Insights and Pitfalls, Friday, Aug 11, 2023.

26th NATIONAL SCIENCE EXHIBITION, Monday, Aug 14, 2023.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Prateep Chakraborty (IIT Kharagpur) -- On left orderable groups, Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Swapnamay Mondal (Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies, Ireland) -- Microscopic Dynamics of Black Holes in String Theory, Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023.

[DMS Seminar] Dr. Himadri Mukherjee (BITS-Pilani, K. K. Birla Goa Campus) -- On the congruence of matrices, Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Prateep Chakraborty (IIT Kharagpur) -- A structure theorem and left orderability of a quotient of quasi-isometry group of the real line, Thursday, Aug 17, 2023.

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[DPS Seminar] Dr. Sriram Guddala (City College of City University of New York, New York, USA) -- Light-Matter Interactions in 2D Quantum Materials Integrated Photonic Nanostructures, Thursday, Aug 17, 2023.

[DPS Seminar] Prof. Tapan Nayak (CERN) -- Recreating the Big Bang matter in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, Tuesday, Aug 22, 2023.

[DES Seminar] Prof. R. Nagendra (Department of Geology, Anna University) -- Virtual field traverses across Barremian to Maastrichtian sedimentary sequences, Ariyalur-Cauvery Basin, Southern India, Wednesday, Aug 23, 2023.

[DPS Seminar] Prof. Krishnendu Sengupta (IACS, Kolkata) -- ETH and its violation in Floquet systems, Wednesday, Aug 23, 2023.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Samik Basu (ISI Kolkata) -- Higher structure on (unstable) homotopy groups, Wednesday, Aug 23, 2023.

[DES Seminar] Dr. Suranjan Ghosh (IIT Bombay) -- Geological framework and tectonic evolution of the Aravalli Craton (northwestern India): Insights from the reworked Archean basement rocks of the Sandmata Complex along the Bhilwara-Deogarh transect, Thursday, Aug 24, 2023.

[Valence Faculty Talk] Prof. Santanu Mukherjee (IISc Bangalore), Friday, Aug 25, 2023.

A Happiness Programme (Sudarshan Kriya yoga program) was organized in the IISER Kolkata campus mainly for IISER Kolkata students, faculty members, doctors, staff members, and their families from 25-27 August, 2023 from 6.30 p.m to 8.45 p.m.