

Pune Chapter Get-together

IIT Kanpur is now 60 years young. IITK was built by a group of young professionals in the sixties, inspired and led by Professor Kelkar, a great visionary and a mentor par excellence. There were certain values, convictions, goals and a vision, which were institutionalized in IITK in those early years and those have stood the test of time. IITK does have a imprint of those visionaries. This inspiring journey of converting an idea into an excellent academic institution is a story worth chronicling in itself. Professor Subbarao's book "IITK - An Eye of Excellence" does capture some of the excitement and the commitment of those pioneers who laid the foundations of a continuing quest for excellence and innovation for years to come. This excellent book on IITK has been authored by somebody who was himself part of that memorable journey for the first twenty years of IITK. The book was released during PANIIT meet in Chennai and was available during the recent get together organized by IITK Alumni Association, Pune Chapter in Pune. We need many more books of this kind which document how the great institutions are built.

It was indeed a pleasure and a privilege for IITK Alumni Association (Pune Chapter) to listen to some of those stalwarts who have built IITK. Pune Chapter of IITK Alumni Association invited and felicitated some of our senior faculty and distinguished alumni to recall those early days of IIT during a recent get together in Pune held on February 26th, 2009. More than 140 alumni (with families) participated in this event. The distinguished speakers included Professors Sanjeev Aggarwal, currently Dean RPG, IITK, Professor Arvind Parasnis, Professor and Mrs ML Vaidya, Professor EC Subbarao, Professor and Mrs. YR Waghmare, Professor and Mrs Hari Sahasrabuddhe, Professor and Mrs R Shankar, Professor Prashant Kumar, Dr. Sivaram and Mrs S. Sivaram, Arvind Gupta, Anil Rajvanshi and Mrs Rajvanshi and Prakash Mulbagal (Dr. M. Prakash as he is known today). All the speakers were nostalgic about the great time they had at IITK and how the spirit of IITK continues to inspire them even today.

Shailendra Agarwal, President of IITK Alumni Association, Pune Chapter welcomed the guests and Dr. Pradip introduced the invitees. Neeraj Jain proposed the vote of thanks. A team of our IITK alumni in Pune including Shailendra Agrawal, Neeraj Agrawal, Satyen Rao, Awanish Kumar, Kiran Akella, Sitesh Das and many others organized this memorable event.