Inauguration of Smart Factory Platform

IISc has been developing a ‘Smart Factory’ called Industry 4.0 India @ IISc as a Common Engineering Facility Centre (CEFC) under the SAMARTH Udyog Bharat 4.0, Department of Heavy Industry (DHI). It was inaugurated by Dr. AR Sihag, DHI Secretary & Prof. Anurag Kumar, IISc Director, at CPDM on December 13, 2019. The CEFC aims to develop smart factory R&D platforms as demonstrators for industry, encourage new innovations and start-ups, create indigenous R&D capabilities in Industry 4.0, and conduct training and education programmes.

Inter-IISER/IISc Sports Meet

The inter-IISER/IISc Sports Meet 2019 was held at IISER Pune from December 9-14, 2019. About 1500 students from 10 premier Indian science institutions participated in this event. A contingent of 150 IISc students along with an officer (Mr. Veeranna Kammar, Assistant Registrar) as team manager participated. IISc students won gold medals in the following events: cricket, volleyball (men & women), badminton (boys), carrom, tennis, 1500 m running, 5000 m running, and 10,000 m running. They also won silver medals in table tennis and badminton (mixed doubles). Team IISc also won the second prize in the march-past.

Wellness Centre

IISc created a Wellness Centre in October 2019, managed by a committee chaired by Prof. PS Anil Kumar (Dean, UG programme) and consisting of five faculty members, all medical officers, four psychiatrists, two psychologists and student representatives. Several initiatives have been proposed in the next few months, such as forming department-level wellness committees, setting up a 24X7 hotline, hiring of psychiatric social workers and a full-time psychiatrist, extension of the YourDOST service, a dedicated website, and regular communication to the campus. Periodic awareness workshops will also be conducted.

New M. Tech. programme in Manufacturing

CPDM has started an M. Tech. programme in Smart Manufacturing and a PhD programme in Advanced Manufacturing. These are highly multidisciplinary, involving faculty members from 13 departments. Admission to the M. Tech. programme is through GATE and interview, and is open to students in all areas of engineering. Apart from traditional manufacturing areas, students will also be trained in design thinking, operations management, sensors, mechatronics, robotics, Industry 4.0, AI and analytics. They will also have compulsory industry internship, and carry out projects with strong industrial relevance.

Annual alumni reunion

IISc's annual alumni reunion was held on December 14 & 15, 2019, with more than 300 alumni and family members in attendance. The event featured get-togethers at various departments, sessions on alumni reflections, experienced alumni hiring, entrepreneurship and student interactions; an address by the Director, the Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony, and a talk by Ms. Ritu Karidhal (Mission Director, Chandrayaan-2, and IISc alumna). On Sunday, students also organized a campus walk, breakfast at the mess, and a cricket match between alumni and students. This year's Distinguished Alumni Awards were conferred on Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar, Ms. Ritu Karidhal, Prof. Viktor K. Prasanna and Dr. Prahlada Ramarao.