



# TEJUS

January 2012

## NEWSLETTER OF THE COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The 86th Annual General Body Meeting of Association of Indian Universities and UGC-sponsored National Seminar on Higher Education hosted by Cusat were held in Kochi during 15-17 December, 2011. The focal theme of the seminar was “Reforms and Innovations in higher education: towards world class standards”. Around 170 Vice Chancellor delegates including some foreign participants attended this mega-event of national importance. A plethora of other policy-makers



*Sri. P K Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala delivering the inaugural address at the 86<sup>th</sup> AIU AGM on 15 December 2011.*

## AIU AGM and UGC National Seminar on Higher Education held at Cusat

had participated in this unique event. The venue of the Conference and Seminar was Flora Airport

Hotel. Sri P.K.Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala delivered the inaugural

speech. Sri Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Vigilance, Govt. of Kerala was the Guest of Honour. Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath welcomed the gathering.

The highlight of the second day was the presence of Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, UGC and Dr. T.P. Sreenivasan, Chairman, Higher Education Council, Kerala. Prof. Ved Prakash graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

At the concluding session on the third day, Sri E. Ahamed, Hon'ble Minister for HRD and External Affairs, Government of India delivered the valedictory address. Dr. P.T. Chande, President, AIU presided over the function and Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat proposed the vote of thanks. ●



*The ceremonial lamp being lighted by Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro - Vice Chancellor, Sri. Sunny P Jose, Syndicate Member, Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU, Dr. P.T Chande, President, AIU, Sri. P K Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Sri. Jose Thettayil, MLA and Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath are looking on.*

## Editorial...

The 86th Annual General Body Meeting of Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and Vice Chancellors' Conference hosted by Cochin University of Science and Technology was held



ness, curriculum - relevance, employability, industrial requirement and finance should be at the heart of higher education reform.

The second day's discussions were highlighted by the inspiring presence of Prof. Ved

Prakash, Chairman, University Grants Commission and a stalwart for reforms in higher education. The concluding session on 17 December was inaugurated by Sri E. Ahmed, Hon'ble Minister of State for HRD and External Affairs who promised far-reaching improvements in the higher education sector and emphasized that quality will be the hallmark of these improvements. He also exhorted the Universities to uphold the objective of effectively utilizing the fruits of research for the good of society.

I extend my heart-felt thanks to all the delegates from India and UGC for their active cooperation and assistance throughout the period. The event received ample support through co-sponsorship from several institutions and organizations for which I hereby express my sincere gratitude. I also take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues at Cusat for their unstinting and selfless support without which it would have been impossible to make this mega-event a grand success. I am confident that this memorable occasion would remain indelible in the annals of our University's history, as a model for the coming generations to aspire for and emulate.

abroad who attended the grand inaugural function on 15 December 2011 and the Conference and Seminar in the ensuing days. Special thanks are due to the officials from AIU led by the Secretary General Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, and those from

## History in the making

from 15 to 17 December 2011. The mega-event enjoyed a record participation of around 170 Vice Chancellors including some foreign delegates. The UGC sponsored National Seminar on Higher Education also took place simultaneously at Kochi. Sri. P.K.Abdul Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala inaugurated the Conference. He stressed the importance of online education and the essentiality of various parts of the country being connected with high speed internet.

Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Govt. of Kerala who was also present, expressed his concern over the

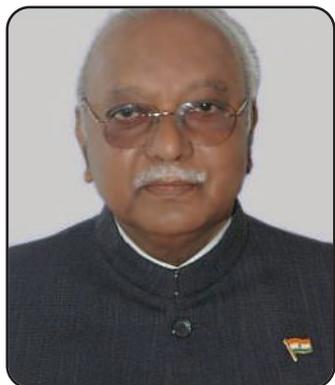
unbridled obsession for technical and professional education, while there were few takers for social science and humanities. This could, according to him, create an imbalance in the progress of mankind. He also released the special issue of AIU's *University News*. I am in full agreement with Dr. Pankaj T. Chande, the outgoing President of AIU in his opinion that India which enjoys the third place in higher education on an international basis can advance to become No.1 in the near future with efficient leadership, excellent administration and up-to-date curricula. He also said that dimensions like governance, equality, equity, access, inclusive-

Prakash, Chairman, University Grants Commission and a stalwart for reforms in higher education. The concluding session on 17 December was inaugurated by Sri E. Ahmed, Hon'ble Minister of State for HRD and External Affairs who promised far-reaching improvements in the higher education sector and emphasized that quality will be the hallmark of these improvements. He also exhorted the Universities to uphold the objective of effectively utilizing the fruits of research for the good of society.

**Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath**

## Demise of the Chancellor mourned

The Cusat community condoled the sad demise of Sri M.O. Hassan Farooke, Governor of Kerala and Chancellor of the University, who passed away on January 26, 2012. Addressing a condolence meeting convened at the University Administrative



Office on 28 January, Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath said that Sri M.O.H. Farooke was a true patriot, unblemished leader of men and excellent administrator, as Chief Minister of his State for three terms, Member of Parliament for three terms, "he was part

of the movement for freeing Pondicherry from the French colonial rule as a student. The entire Cusat fraternity mourns the demise of their beloved Chancellor and joins in the grief of the bereaved family," he said. The University had declared 27 January a holiday as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

Sri. P.K. Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of Kerala said that the concept of e-education should be taken seriously, with more and more cities in the country coming under the ambit of the high speed cyber network. "Online education is very crucial for the people. As a pre-requisite to expansion of online education services, it is essential that various parts of the country be connected with high speed internet", he said. He was inaugurating the 86th Annual General Body Meeting of the Association of Indian Universities.



*Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Vigilance being received by Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath while Dr. A.D.N. bajpai, Secretary General AIU, Dr. S. Anilkumar, Director, PR & Publications looks on.*

## Concept of E-Education should be taken seriously: Edn. Minister

Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Government of Kerala said that many problems still remain in the higher education system even though "we have successfully digitalized knowledge and mechanized the system". The general complaint is that we are not showing sufficient interest in timely revision of the syllabi;

teachers are not refreshed properly; examination valuation is not fool-proof and not the least inordinate delays even in the issue of degree certificates, he said.

Sri. Radhakrishnan urged the Vice Chancellors present to address the issue of the unbridled obsession on the part of the students as well as their parents for technical and professional

education. Science, Social Science and Humanities are being ignored. This could create an imbalance in the progress of mankind, he said.

Kerala, he said, is a land of scholars and its wisdom and traditions are based on its rich heritage. The Gurukula culture, treated the *Kubera* and the *Kuchela* alike. But today, the minister observed, Education is a commodity in the global super-market. He pointed out that world class standards in higher education must be established within the country and he expressed the government's solidarity with AIU and UGC in this regard. He highlighted the need for timely revision of syllabi, fool proof valuation and teacher refreshment programs, as these are the keys to the nurturing of a fruitful young generation in the nation. He was concerned over the *erosion of values* amongst the younger minds of the country and stressed the need for moral



*Sri. P K Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education being received by Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath. Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar, cusat and Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro - Vice Chancellor, cusat are also seen.*



*Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Vigilance addressing the delegates after lighting the lamp.*

integration tools like environment education, consumer awareness, consumer rights etc. The minister concluded with a positive note on the efforts taken by the Cusat Vice chancellor and his team in organising the 86<sup>th</sup> AGM of AIU and the UGC-sponsored national seminar in a befitting manner.

Dr. Pankaj Chande, President of the Association of Indian Universities, in his presidential address said that dimensions like governance, quality, equity, access, inclusiveness, curriculum, relevance, employability, industrial requirement and finance should be at the heart of higher education reform. Dr. Chande, said that too many reforms at a time will exert pressure on those implementing it. With too many reforms, there is a chance of breakdown of the system. A strategic planning is essential to implement reforms in a phased manner, he said.

In his welcome address, Cusat Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath said that Cusat is a global centre for higher education in frontier areas of learning, and that he is proud to host the 86<sup>th</sup> AGM of AIU after

decades. He commented on the age-old *Gurukul system* and the importance given by India to higher learning and knowledge even from the Vedic age.

Quoting Jawaharlal Nehru, he said, *“A university stands for humanism, tolerance, reason, adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. A university stands for the onward march of the human race towards higher objectives. Universities are places of ideas and idealism. If the universities discharge their duties adequately, then, it is well with the nation and the people.”* He stressed the need for collective

steps by Vice Chancellors for quality higher education. He remarked on the overwhelming response received from various national universities/organisations and foreign universities towards this AGM of AIU and National Seminar on Higher Education.

The Hon'ble Revenue Minister of Kerala released a special issue of *University News*, published by AIU and edited by Dr. Sistla Rama Devi Pani. The first copy was handed over to Shri Abdu Rabb, the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala. Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Vice Chancellor of Cochin University of Science and Technology welcomed the gathering. Dr. Pankaj T. Chande, President, Association of Indian Universities and Vice Chancellor, Kavikulguru Kalidas Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya presided over the function. Shri. Jose Thettayil, MLA, Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cochin University of Science and Technology and Sri. Sunny P. Jose, Member Syndicate, Cusat felicitated the function. Prof. A D N Bajpai, Secretary General of AIU proposed the vote of thanks. ●



*A view of the elite audience attending the session*

**From the Platform...**



*Sri. Jose Thettayil MLA*



*Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath*



*Dr. P.T. Chande, President AIU*



*Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cusat*



*Dr. ADN Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU*



*Sri. Sunny P. Jose, Syndicate Member, Cusat*



*Dr. K. Mohandas, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Science, Thrissur*



*Theme presentation by Dr. M.S. Valiathan, former Vice Chancellor, MAHE during the AIU AGM*



*A press conference in progress during the AIU AGM Meet 2011. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro - Vice Chancellor, Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Dr. P.T Chande, President AIU, Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU and Sri. Sunny P Jose, Syndicate Member are on the dais.*

institutions, both teachers and students should be empowered and the Vice Chancellors should lead them towards progress. Reforms should not be a burden and for this, realistic planning is essential. A consortium of higher education institutions should be formed. An example would be *Universitas 21* which is a consortium of 21 research Universities from 13 countries.

The difference between haves and have-nots should not exist in higher education. We await the day when India attains world leadership in higher education, but we should make the necessary



## Universities should develop infrastructure – Dr. Chande



Before allowing FDI in higher education sector, Universities in the States should develop infrastructure, according to Dr. Pankaj, T Chande, President, Association of Indian Universities and Vice Chancellor, Kavikulguru Kalidas Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Nagpur. The advent of English medium schools caused the closure of many regional language – medium schools in several states and this scenario could be repeated when FDI in higher education is allowed in the country. In order to avoid such a situation the Universities should strengthen themselves, he added. He was speaking at a special press conference convened in the venue of AIU immediately after the inauguration.

In the XII Plan, substantial financial support is the only expectation for the higher education sector, which if fulfilled development of infrastructure is possible, whereby the standards of higher education can be enhanced. The Central Government coming

forward to assist state Universities is a welcome move. India has nearly advanced in the higher education sector at par with international standards. We can reach the No.1 slot in the near future, but it requires considerable amount of hard work. Efficient leadership, excellent administration, professional approach to management and up to date curricula are basic factors for advancement. In higher education

preparations while waiting. Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Vice Chancellor of Cochin University of Science and Technology, Dr. Pankaj Chande, President of Association of Indian Universities, A D N Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU, Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Sri. Sunny P. Jose, Member Syndicate, Cusat also participated in the press conference .



*Dr. T.P. Srenivasan, Chairman, Higher Education Council is being felicitated by Dr. P.T. Chande, President AIU*

Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) has said that the Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operation) Bill will rein in foreign institutions of dubious nature operating in the country.

While delivering a special talk at the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) on 16, December, 2011 Prof. Prakash said the Bill was in the right direction. “It would welcome prestige enhancing institutions,



*Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman UGC addresses the delegates during the National Seminar on Higher Education and AIU-Annual General Body Meeting.*

## **New Bill will rein in fake Foreign Universities: UGC Chairman**

encourage prestige-seeking institutions, and prevent resource maximizing institutions. We need the Bill more for this purpose”. Prof. Prakash said, explaining that “you cannot go and operate just like that in the U.S.” Prof. Prakash said that India did not have a law as far as operation of foreign institutions was concerned.

“There is only one regulation issued by the AICTE and that is confined only to the management and allied programmes. We should have a law. This is a very important Bill”, the Chairman said.

Allaying fears that the entry of foreign educational institutions would result in poaching of renowned academics, Prof. Prakash asked how many people from the IIT system had gone to wealthy institutions set up by corporate companies in the country. Pointing out that the UGC had proposed a ‘joint appointment’ system to step up the academic and other prospects of the teaching community; he said

a teacher in Kerala University would be able to hold a position in the Cochin University of Science and Technology as per the proposal. “The teacher will be giving a semester here and one semester there. But the salary and the service benefits would be from one institution. The other institution is going to take care of the accommodation and some remuneration for the period when the teacher will be rendering his/her services so that two institutions will be benefited,” he said.

Describing that sanctioning of deemed universities was not a closed chapter, Prof. Prakash said that the provisions for getting approval were now stringent. He further said that the fragmentation of higher education is a dangerous sign. He also shared the concern that most of the institutions in the country now belong to the learning system and not to the knowledge system. Stand-alone universities must be discouraged. Equity and

excellence come only through multi and interdisciplinary campuses. A regional imbalance in terms of number of institutions is a serious concern. The Union Government plans to have a central pace-setting institution in each district. He said that the interaction between the University and the industry should not be a one way process. It should be of mutual benefit. He said that state universities are not getting the funds they deserve. UGC now proposes norms based funding.

He stressed the need for customized strategies for marginalized groups rather than the standardized approach for all. Excellence in higher education should not be restricted to Science and Engineering alone. Rather it should be extended to other subjects like Social Sciences, humanities, etc. He advised that we should plan e-courses to get the knowledge of the best professors. Dr. P. T. Chande, President AIU, welcomed Dr Ved Prakash to deliver the special talk at the 86<sup>th</sup> AIU-AGM.



*Sri. E. Ahmed, Hon'ble Minister for HRD & External Affairs, Govt. of India is inaugurating the valedictory function of AIU AGB on 17 December 2011. Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, Secretary General AIU, Dr. P.T Chande, President AIU, Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath and Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat are also seen on the dais.*

education will be enhanced. The emphasis of the improvements will be on quality. We require a system for ensuring quality in design, administration, teaching, research and examinations." the minister opined.

The higher education sector should gear up for change. The view that Universities are Centres for Teaching and Knowledge Distribution alone should change. While safeguarding the knowledge accumulated from the past, Universities should have the objective of effectively utilizing the fruits of research and innovative products for the good of society.

## Improvements in higher education on the anvil – Union HRD Minister

Sri. E Ahmed, Minister of State for HRD and External Affairs has declared that far-reaching improvements in the higher education sector are being introduced. He was speaking at the concluding session of the Annual General Body Meeting of the Association of Indian Universities hosted by Cusat in Kochi.

The improvements in existing processes will be aimed at ensuring quality, he said. Developing a system for examining fraudulent practices and corruption in educational institutions, formation of a National Accreditation Agency, and special education tribunals for solving the controversies and problems in campuses, will be conducted as part of the envisaged improvement agenda. All improvements will be implemented only after deliberations at various levels.

The Central Government's initiatives to improve higher education are being opposed by those with vested interests. Even

those with political motives are opposing such initiatives. Investment by Government in education which is essential for the economic development of the country is being viewed with suspicion by many, Minister added

"When economic growth is achieved, the country needs more and more doctors, engineers and management experts. With foreign investment, competition will become strong and quality of

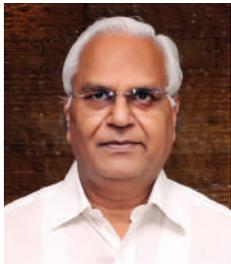
The Minister felicitated Dr. K. Vasudevan, Nodal Officer and Dr. S. Anil Kumar, Organising Secretary for their sincere efforts in making the programme a grand success.

Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath welcomed the gathering. Dr. Pankaj T. Chande, President, AIU presided over the function. Dr. A D N Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU spoke and Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat proposed the vote of thanks.



*Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath is handing over a memento to Sri. E. Ahmed, Hon'ble Minister for HRD & External Affairs, Govt. of India, Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, Secretary General AIU, Dr. P.T Chande, President AIU and Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat are also seen.*

## Dr. S.N. Puri, elected AIU President



Dr. S. N. Puri, Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal has been elected as President of

Association of Indian Universities. The election was conducted during the Annual General Body Meeting at Kochi hosted by Cusat. Earlier he was Vice President of AIU.

### Quality is the only parameter; Dr. K. Mohandas

“Quality is the only parameter for reforming the Higher Education scenario and the quality can be improved only with improved evaluation methods and appropriate infrastructure developments”, said Dr. K. Mohandas, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health Sciences and former President of ACU and AIU. Examination reforms should concentrate on stress reduction on both learnt and learned, he added. Dr. Mohandas was delivering the keynote on the topic ‘Reforms and Innovations in Higher Education - A March towards World Class standards’ at the Vice Chancellors Conference of AIU hosted by Cusat.

He proposed a paradigm shift in health care education to ICT enabled and enriched health care education. We need more of preventive care rather than curative care. He insisted that there must be a moratorium on the starting of new colleges with an appeal to ensuring that only trained and qualified faculties enter their doors. He stressed that formation of stand alone or single-discipline universities should be stopped.



Sri. Thiruvanchoor Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Vigilance releases the special issue of AIU's 'University News' by handing over a copy to Sri. P.K Abdu Rabb, Hon'ble Minister for Education. Dr. P.T Chande, President AIU, Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Sri. Jose Thettayil, MLA, and Dr. Sistla Rama Devi Pani, Editor, University News are on the dais.



Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, UGC receives a memento from Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath. Dr. P.T. Chande, President AIU, Dr. A.D.N. Bajpai, Secretary General, AIU are also seen.



Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat proposes the vote of thanks during the valedictory session of AIU Annual General Body at Cusat.





Cusat Students under the leadership Association of the Dept. of Physical Education are participating an Adventure Training Camp Conducted at National Adventure Academy, Munnar.

**Dr. S. Bijoy Nandan nominated**

Dr. S. Bijoy Nandan, Associate Professor in Marine Biology, Cusat has been nominated by Govt. of Kerala vide order issued during December, as a member of the Kerala State Pollution Control Board for a period of 3



years. The Board member would ensure the sound and effective management of environment related affairs implemented through the Board.



Vice Chancellor delegates during a photo session

## Universities to preserve the treasure

*Excerpts from the Guest Editorial written by Cusat Vice Chacellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekked*

India, known as the home of some of the oldest formal universities in the world, has a long and reputable history in the field of higher education. In modern times, despite serious handicaps of means and resources, the country has built up a higher education system which is the third largest in the world. With over 200 universities and 100 deemed-to-be universities, the system has created a vast body of men and women equipped with a high order of scientific and technological capabilities, robust humanist and philosophical thought, and creativity. However, the emerging needs and expectations have added new dimensions and challenges to the higher education system.

Every university administrator is periodically reminded of the prevailing dogma that university education should be geared towards employability. Today's challenging economic situation warrants that it is no longer sufficient for a new graduated to have knowledge of an academic subject; increasingly it is necessary for students to gain employability skills. It means that courses should be designed to suit the needs of the professions and that the curricula should

have the right mix of theory and practice. It is high time that we benchmark our education system to the best in the world. We need to learn from the new paradigms and practices sweeping the world.

Having spent almost three decades in Science and Technology areas both in academic institutions and in industry in India and USA, I understand the importance of a strong relationship between universities and industries for the scientific advancement as well as for developing quality workforce. The successful transfer of new technologies from the research laboratory to the commercial sector has many benefits. It is a win-win situation for all – to the university and its members, to industry in general, to the government, to the entrepreneurs and to the general public.

The question of changing assessment patterns along with the changing educational system in the country has attracted the attention of the government, educationists, teachers, researchers etc. as an important part of improving higher education. The present evaluation system is full of stress and the



## Treasures of knowledge and wisdom

*Published in the special issue of University News published in connection with the AIU AGM at Cusat*

impact of this system on students is immense, while not achieving the real goals of evaluation. According to William A. Feather, education is “being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don’t. It knows where to go to find out what you need to know; and it knows how to use the information once you get it”. The examination system has to be redesigned to incorporate this larger picture.

The next theme addressed is a general trend in the diversified means of resource mobilization to support higher education. Reform measures is to shift the burden of cost from the public to private. Several committees constituted by the Government of India recommended that universities should mobilize funds by themselves to cover a part of the recurring expenditure and generate corpus funds to meet infrastructure development. We need to design innovative measures to augment the income from fees through consulting, training, technology transfer etc. Another measure that can be considered to recover the cost of higher education is through a “Graduate Tax”. The “Graduate Tax” can be an education specific tax levied on those who use educated

manpower. The paradoxical situation in India is that the real users of the trained manpower do not bear the cost of developing it. There is, therefore, a strong case for levying a tax, probably a onetime tax, for every graduate who is employed in any organization. The tax thus collected may be given directly to the concerned university.

I believe it is the university’s responsibility to preserve the treasures of knowledge and wisdom from the past, discover and develop new ones and disseminate them to the society. We have to keep in mind that the goal of higher education is not only to promote the pursuit of knowledge, but also to develop the right attitudes, best work-ethos, professionalism, leadership and social responsibility. Education is meant to be a liberating force which enables the individual to rise to superior planes of intellectual consciousness. I conclude by quoting Sri Aurobindo, a noted philosopher of our times, “The past is our foundation, the present our material, the future our aim and summit. Each must have its due and natural place in a national system of education.”

## New Syndicate Members of Cusat

### The Vice-Chancellor

### The Pro-Vice-Chancellor

### The Director of Technical Education

Directorate of Technical Education, Padmavilasom Road, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 023

### The Secretary to Government

Higher Education Department Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 001 represented by **Sri. N. Sherif**, Joint Secretary to Govt., Higher Education Dept.

### The Secretary to Government

Finance Department Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram- 695 001 represented by **Sri. Sugunan K.**, Additional Secretary to Govt., Finance Department

### The Executive Vice- President

KSCSTE, Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom P.O Thiruvananthapuram - 695 004

### Sri. Hibi Eden, MLA

Eden Garden, Deshabhimani Road, Kochi - 17

### Sri. K. M. Shaji, MLA

Malabar Tower, South Bazar, Kannur - 2 .

### Dr. K.R. Muraleedharan Nair

Retd. Professor, Department of Statistics, Cusat, Kochi -22

### Dr. P. G. R. Pillai

Doctor's Garden, Gandhi Nagar.P.O., Kottayam - 686 008

### Dr. M.Bhasi

Professor School of Management Studies, Cusat, Kochi -22

### UGC Nominee

### Sri. Sunny P. Jose

Alapatt Silks, Karimpanal Arcade, East Fort Thiruvananthapuram - 695 023

### Dr. A.V. George

Head, Department of Geology and Environmental Sciences, Christ College, Irinjalakkuda

### Dr. A. Mujeeb

Associate Professor Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad, Pulinkunnu, Alappuzha

### Sri. Lopus Mathew

Associate Professor, St. George College, Aruvithura, Kottayam

### Sri. S. Harikumar

Head Department of Malayalam, S D College, Alappuzha

### Dr. A. Mohamuda Beegum

Associate Professor of English Maharajas College, Ernakulam

### Dr. Zakkariya. K.A

Associate Professor School of Management Studies, Cusat, Kochi -22

### Dr. I.K. Jayadev

Associate Professor, Department of Islamic History Maharajas College, Ernakulam

### Dr. K.Sajan

Professor Department of Marine Geology and Geophysics, Cusat, Kochi - 22

### Sri.Tony Raphy

6th Sem, B.Tech, Electrical and Electronics Engineering School of Engineering Cusat, Kochi-22

## KSCSTE

### Young Scientist Award to Dr. N.S.Sudheer

Dr. N.S. Sudheer, Post Doctoral Fellow at National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health of



Cochin University of Science and Technology has won the Young Scientist Award instituted by Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Trivandrum under the theme *Environmental Science* including Forestry and Wild Life.

The award was conferred on him for the work he has carried out on Mangrove plants for developing anti-white spot syndrome virus preparations which could be applied orally along with diet. The extract which was prepared from the Mangrove plant *Ceriops tagal* showed excellent anti White Spot Syndrome Virus property on application. With this finding there is every possibility of developing a novel drug for controlling the dreaded disease which has literally paralyzed the shrimp industry globally in general and in India in particular.

This research was carried out with the financial assistance from Department of Biotechnology, Government of India under the guidance of Prof. I.S.Bright Singh, Co-ordinator, National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health and Dr. Rosamma Philip, Faculty, Department of Marine Biology, Microbiology and Biochemistry, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 25,000, a Research Grant of Rs. 1 lakh and a certificate.

“India needs to develop several key cutting-edge technologies to survey the country’s existing and potential Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) as also to design and make underwater machinery and systems to harvest oceanic resources from various depths to the land for further processing”, Prof. M. Ravindran, Chairman of the Naval Research Board, said.

After inaugurating *Sympol 2011*, an International Symposium on Ocean Electronics organized by the Department of Electronics, Cochin University of Science and Technology (Cusat) on 16 November 2011, Mr. Ravindran said there exist tremendous technology gaps in



*Professor M. Ravindran, former director NIOT – Chennai, is inaugurating the International Symposium on Ocean Electronics (SYMPOL 2011) organized by Department of Electronics. Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath, Prof. P.R.S. Pillai, Head, Department of Electronics, Dr. Supriya M.H., Co-ordinator, SYMPOL 2011, Dr. Albert J. Williams and Dr. A. Unnikrishnan are also seen.*

## Develop technology to tap oceanic resources

the country in various spheres of ocean technology.

Our EEZ is at present two million sq. km. The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has put up a claim for a possible addition of nearly 1 million sq. km more and the International Seabed Authority is likely to grant that. Surveying ocean parameters like bathymetry, seabed characteristics, temperature and salinity profiles, pollutants, biodiversity, surface winds, wave characteristics, internal waves and the like in 3 million sq. km of expanded EEZ and analyzing and understanding them are by themselves Herculean tasks. The starting point for all these processes is the development of a variety of reliable underwater transducers to measure these parameters and transmit the data ashore,” he said.

According to Mr. Ravindran, multiple technologies were needed to tap our seabed resources without ruining the oceanic environment. An important aspect

of underwater communication was the application of underwater acoustics. “While the science of acoustic tomography is not fully developed (the world over), in India, the expertise needed for seismic survey of ocean bed resources is limited to a few institutions,” he said.

Presenting an estimate of food, gas hydrates, minerals and non-renewable and renewable energy resources embedded in the country’s existing EEZ, he said India required to devise cheaper ‘fish finding sonars’ to help fishermen find and identify fishing type.

“India has no multi-channel seismic survey ship to survey and harvest the country’s deep sea hydrocarbon and mineral reserves,” he rued and said that capacity building in seismic data was necessary to assess the residual life of existing offshore platforms, optimise their design and cost, reduce risks and improve safety.

“Also, we need to find ways and means of harvesting gas hydrates deposited below the seabed in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal and bring it ashore using pipelines,” he said, giving a glimpse of the remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) developed by the NIOT. “The Institute is also developing a deep-sea mining system that can traverse the seabed at a depth of 6,000 meters without hurting marine life,” he said.

Cusat Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath presided. Sri. A. Unnikrishnan, Associate Director, Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory released the proceedings of *Sympol 2011*. Prof. P R S Pillai, Head, Department of Electronics welcomed the gathering. Dr. K Vasudevan, Dean Faculty of Technology, Cusat and Dr. James S Collins, OES AdCom Member felicitated the function. Dr. Supriya M H, Coordinator, Sympol 2011 proposed the vote of thanks.



*Cusat Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath is initiating the 7th National Workshop on Science Communication and Science Journalism. Dr. S. Anilkumar, Director, Public Relations and Publications, Dr. Ajit Prabhu, Joint Director, KSCSTE, Dr. K.A. Zakkariya, Syndicate Member and Sri. M. Ramachandran, Director, Kerala Press Academy are also seen.*

inaugural function said that the media has failed to impress upon the general public the far-reaching developments in science and technology. The public has the moral right to be informed of the achievements in the research laboratories and this could be realized only through the creative co-operation of the media.

Prof. S. Sivadas, noted Popular Science writer, Sri. Kumar Chellapan, Principal Correspondent, DNA, Chennai, Sri. Pramesh Kumar, Regional Bureau Chief, Manorama News, Dr. V P N Namboori, Emeritus Professor, CSIR, Sri. T.K. Anilkumar, Chief Sub Editor, Deshabhimani, Dr. S.

## **Seventh DPR National Workshop on Science Communication Held**

The Directorate of Public Relations and Publications, Cusat and the Centre for Science Communication of Cusat jointly organized the 7th “National Workshop on Science Communication and Journalism” at the Electronics Auditorium. The three day workshop sponsored by Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment was designed for students and young writers of Mass communication and around 100 participants from various reputed institutions attended.

Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath initiated the workshop at a special function organised on 30 January 2012. Dr. K.A. Zakkariya, Syndicate Member, Sri M. Ramachandran, Director, Kerala Press Academy, Dr. K. Vasudevan, Dean, Faculty of Technology,

Dr. P R S Pillai, Head, Dept. of Electronics and Dr. S. Anilkumar, Director, Public Relations and Publications also attended.

Dr Ajit Prabhu, Joint Director, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment in his keynote address during the

Anilkumar, Director, Public Relations and Publications, and Sri. Suresh Kumar G, Section Officer, Public Relations and Publications lead classes. Certificates were distributed to the participants by Dr. K Vasudevan, Dean, Faculty of Technology, during the concluding ceremony.



*Dr. Ajit Prabhu, Joint Director, KSCSTE is delivering the keynote address at the 7th National Workshop on Science Communication and Science Journalism.*



*Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor lights the ceremonial lamp while Dr. K. Vasudevan, Dean, Faculty of Technology, Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar, Dr. P.Pitt Pappachan, Dr. V.P.N. Namboori, Emeritus Professor, CSIR, Dr. Shibu Ray & Smt. Baby Valsala, University Librarian In-Charge look on.*

### **Quality Publications Essential For Quality Research - Dr. Godfrey Louis**

Quality Research can be achieved only through preparation of good quality research publications, according to Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cusat. The preparation of research publications should not be in the same manner as for news releases or general articles, but in accordance with certain specified norms. Information technology should be fully utilized to procure maximum exposure for research publications, he said.

He was delivering the inaugural address at the Seminar on “Profiling Research Publications for Quality Research” organized by the University Library on 3 January 2012.

Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat who presided over the function said that the tendency to use the research findings of others without obtaining prior permission or showing proper references is on the rise. This practice could prove dangerous for the development of quality research. The book “Free Software and Libraries” published by University Library was released during the function. Dr. K. Vasudevan, Dean, Faculty of Technology and Smt Baby Valsala, University Librarian spoke. Dr. P.Pitt Pappachan and Dr. V.P.N.Namboori led various sessions.

## **Independent Researchers Initiatives should be promoted: Prof. VNR**

Independent initiatives of researchers shall be promoted for achieving desired goals in higher educational research, said Prof. V N Rajasekharan Pillai, Executive Vice President, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE). According to Dr. Pillai such an attitude would encourage the researchers and institution builders to take risks and to achieve desired goals. Prof. V N Rajasekharan Pillai was inaugurating the National Conference on Current Trends in Chemistry organized by Department of Applied Chemistry, Cochin University of Science and Technology on 20 January.



Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath presided over the function. Dr. T. Pradeep IIT, Madras delivered the keynote address. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dr. K.R. Muralaeddharan Nair, Dean, Faculty of Science, offered felicitations. Dr. K. Sreekumar, Head, Department of Applied Chemistry welcomed the gathering. Dr. P V Mohanan, Convener, CTriC 2012 proposed the vote of thanks.

The Conference dwelt upon the new developments in different areas of chemistry through invited talks, oral presentations and poster presentation. Around 150 participants attended the conference which came to an end on 21 January 2012.

### **National Seminar on Criticism at Hindi Department**

The Department of Hindi conducted a three-day National Seminar on “Contemporary Hindi-The Indianness in Malayalam criticism” The Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Sudheesh Pachaury, noted Hindi literary critic and Professor at Delhi University. Two books authored by Prof. K. Vanaja were also released at the function.

Dr. Vasishtha Narayan Tripathi, Dr. Pranay Krishna and Dr. Chitrakala Tripathi presented papers on the Indianness in Hindi literary criticism. The Malayalam session was inaugurated by Malayalam literary critic Prof. M. Thomas Mathew. Sri Asha Menon, Dr. A.M.Sreedharan, Dr. K S Ravikumar and Dr. P. Muralidhar presented papers.

## Prestigious Dr. Vasudev Award to Cusat Professor

Prof. P. Mohanan, Department of Electronics, Cochin University of Science and Technology was awarded Dr. S. Vasudev Award 2011 by the Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment for the project titled "Compact dual band dielectric resonator for mobile phone antenna with reduced radiation hazards" under the Science Research scheme of the Council.



The selection was made taking into consideration the originality of the work, scientific content and possible influence of the finding for the future of mankind.

Prof. Mohanan has published more than 250 articles in refereed journals and conference papers. He also holds several patents in the areas of antennas and material science. Dr. Mohanan received the Career Award from the University Grants Commission in Engineering and Technology, Government of India, in 1994. As per Scopus his H-index is 23. He is a member IEEE (USA), IET (UK), member in the editorial board of RFMiCAE (RF and Microwave Computer aided Engineering) Journal, USA and reviewer of several international journals.

Dr. Mohanan received the award from Dr. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Executive Vice President, KSCSTE at Kerala Science Congress.



Cusat Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath is inaugurating the 31st Annual Convention of Indian Society for Probability and Statistics and International Conference on Statistics, Probability and related Areas by lighting the lamp. Dr. K.R. Muraleedharan Nair, Dean, Faculty of Science, Dr. N. Unnikrishnan Nair, former Vice Chancellor, Cusat and Dr. P.G. Sankaran are also seen on the dais.

## International conference on Statistics Probability and related Areas

The Department of Statistics, Cochin University of Science and Technology has organized the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of Indian Society for Probability and Statistics and International Conference on Statistics, Probability and related Areas during 19-22, December 2011.

The primary objectives of the conference was to assess the past developments in the field of statistics and to discuss the future direction in terms of statistical theory, practice and statistics education.

Emphasis has also been placed to discuss the necessary reforms in statistical training and education that we need to make in order to meet the ever-changing needs of statistical practitioners in the industrial and government sectors. In addition it was intended that the exchange of experiences

and ideas would foster international collaboration in research and other technology transfer activities.

The Conference also provided a forum for presenting and exchanging ideas in statistical methods applicable to industry and business and an opportunity for interaction between industrial practitioners and academia.

The conference featured topics including Applied Probability, Bayesian Inference, Bio-statistics and Bio-informatics, Data Mining, Design of Experiments, Directional Data Analysis, and Distribution Theory. There were about 250 delegates from various parts of the world, including about 20 foreign delegates and 230 Indian delegates. The conference had 2 plenary lectures, 8 Special invited sessions and 30 invited sessions.



*Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath is delivering the inaugural address at the national seminar on Employability of fresh engineering graduates in the era of globalization. Dr. Sabu Thomas, Research Fellow, Sri Joseph Alexander, Project Officer, Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor are also seen.*

## Engineering study: Lack of practical knowledge a limiting factor

Lack of practical knowledge on the part of students and the dearth of industrial interface on the part of teachers pose the greatest challenge for the career prospects of Engineering students, opined Sri Murali Pashupati, noted engineering

technology expert. Engineering students generally have poor communication skills, especially in English and teachers spend very little time to acquire and hone essential skills.

He was speaking at a National Seminar on “Employability of

fresh engineering graduates in the era of globalization” organized by National Technical Manpower Information System’s Nodal Centre for Kerala based at Cusat in association with the Kerala State Higher Education Council, Institute of Applied Manpower Research, Delhi and National Productivity Council, New Delhi on 24 January.

Lack of encouragement for innovative ideas among students and the identification and solution of engineering problems are some other issues to be addressed, he continued. Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath delivered the inaugural speech. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Sri Joseph Alexander, Project Officer, Nodal Centre and Dr. Sabu Thomas were present. The various sessions were handled by Dr. K. Pushpangadan, Smt. Sherly M.K, Dr. Upadhyay, Smt. Vandita Sahay and Dr. M. P. Chandrasekharan. Around thirty papers were presented during the two-day Seminar.

## Training for Fisheries officers from MP

The School of Industrial Fisheries, Cusat organized a training programme for officials from Department of Fisheries, Madhya Pradesh. The programme was part of a project funded by World Bank and the first batch of senior officers was given training by Dr. Saleena Mathew and Dr. John Mohan. Different areas of fisheries especially the processing and marketing of inland fish products were covered during the various sessions. Visits to fish farms, fish processing units and fishing harbours were included with a view to emphasize practicality.

Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar and Director, School of

Industrial Fisheries inaugurated the function on 10th January at the School of Industrial Fisheries.

The programme was scheduled from 10-20th January 2012. Prof.(Dr.) Saleena Mathew and Dr. John Mohan of School of Industrial Fisheries co-ordinated the programme.

The valedictory of the programme was held on 20th January 2012. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice-Chancellor presided over the meeting and distributed the certificates. Prof. Saleena Mathew welcomed the gathering. Shri. Anwar Hashim, Chief Executive, Abad Group, the Chief Guest, addressed the gathering. Dr. John Mohan proposed vote of thanks.

## Yuvaratna Award for Cusat student

Aswathy P S, a 3rd year B Tech student from School of Engineering, Cusat has bagged the *Yuvaratna Award* instituted by Aditya Birla



group at a National paper presentation competition. She is the first Keralite to win this award comprising of a cash prize of Rs 75,000, a memento and a manager level job at group company. The competition consisted of three rounds based on Civil Engineering topics and around 200 students from various institutions including IITs and IIScS participated.

The Inter-University Centre for Intellectual Property Rights Studies, Cochin University of Science and Technology and the MHRD Chair on IPR jointly conducted the Second Annual National Workshop for Law Students on *Rethinking Intellectual Property Rights* during 12-14 January 2012. The series' theme for 2012 was "Indian Patent Law: The Social Overtones". The workshop was inaugurated on 11 January by Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath. Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr. N.S.



*Cusat Vice Chancellor Dr. Ramachandran Thekkedath is inaugurating Second Annual National Workshop for Law Students on Rethinking Intellectual Property Rights by lightning the lamp. Dr.N.S. Gopalakrishnan, Director, Inter University Centre for IPR Studies, Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro Vice Chancellor, Cusat and Dr. Sebastian, Director, School of legal studies are also seen.*

## **Intellectual Property: National Workshop at IPR Studies Centre**

Gopalakrishnan, Director, Inter-University Centre for IPR Studies, Dr. Biswas S.K. and Sri Zakir Thomas, Director, Open Source Drugs Discovery Project, spoke on

the occasion. The workshop was attended by around 50 law students from 17 law schools. Experts from within India as well as abroad conducted classes

during the five sessions. Paper presentations, mock, moot, debate, role play and parliamentary debate were held as part of the workshop.



*Sri. M.P. John Principal Officer, Maritime Mercantile Department is inaugurating the seminar "Piracy at Sea - an Introspection". Dr. A Ramachandran, Registrar, Cusat, Dr. Jose Paul, Director, Margao Port, Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cusat and Prof. K.A. Simon, Director, K.M. School of Marine Engineering are also seen.*

### **Piracy on the high seas- International laws to be strengthened**

K M School of Marine Engineering of Cusat had organized a Seminar on "Piracy at

sea - an Introspection" on 25 November 2011. The Seminar was inaugurated by Sri M. P. John,

Principal Officer, Maritime Mercantile Department. According to him, piracy at sea can be effectively curtailed only through strong intervention by the United Nations. While strengthening international laws, the real reason behind piracy has to be ascertained. It is mostly the youth from countries suffering from absolute poverty and acute administrative and political turmoil that are behind piracy and the UN has to exert all its powers to help relieve these ills.

The Seminar was presided over by Dr. Godfrey Louis, Pro-Vice Chancellor. Dr. A. Ramachandran, Registrar, Dr. Jose Paul, former Director, Margao Port, Prof. K.A. Simon, Director, K M School of Marine Engineering, Prof. Dr. P V Sasikumar and Prof N.G.Nair also spoke.



An interactive session during the optics fair.

## Optics Fair conducted at International School of Photonics

The annual outreach program of ISP – CELOS SPIE and ISP – OSA student chapters was organized on 08 and 09 December 2011 at the International School of Photonics. The event was

witnessed by around 1350 students from 12 schools and 2 colleges around Ernakulam. The fair was aimed at inculcating in students a love for the science of optics. The fair had four sections with 8 experiments in each group.

The Optics Kit Version – 5.0 was also released at the fair. Optics Kit had components ranging from lenses to diffraction grating and slits. A 33 minute scientific documentary ‘Cosmic Voyage’ was filmed in the Video Section. The Optics Quiz organized as a part of the Optics fair received participation from 13 schools, where Bhavan’s Vidya Mandir, Girinagar emerged winners.

## South Zone Youth Fete: Cusat Excels

Cusat students bagged a couple of awards in the 27 South Zone Inter University Youth



Sri. Akhiljith A

Festival UNIFEST 2011 held at Sathyabhama University, Chennai from 18 to 22 December 2011 organized by Association of Indian Universities.

A team of 40 including 30 Students, 9 Accompanists and Director, Students Welfare represented Cochin University of Science and Technology in the festival. Around 40 teams from the states of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu had participated in the festival.

The festival commenced with the cultural procession by participants from various universities where Cusat team demonstrated different traditional art forms of Kerala by

showcasing *ottanthullal*, *bharatha natyam* and *velichappadu* with *chenda* and *thakil*.

The winners of the fete were Sri. Akhiljith A - (Second prize in mimicry), Ms. Amrutha Raj - (Third prize in elocution - English and Hindi). Besides, the team won a Third prize in one-act-play and

another in skit. Fourth position in quiz (Pravin V, Pradyoth C John and Nevin Thomas) was also bagged by the team. Sri. Nikhil P.N and Sri. Harikrishan U attracted special attention of the audience and judges with their fantastic performance in classical solo with vocal and violin.



Dr. P.K. Baby, Director, Youth Welfare, Cochin University of Science and Technology is receiving awards in the 27th South Zone Inter University Youth Festival 2011 held at Chennai.

## Ph.D Awardees

**Smt. Mary Antony** “*Communication Parameters in the Marine Fisheries Sector of Kerala - A Study of Kollam coastal Village*” (Dr. S. Anilkumar, Director, Public Relations and Publications Cusat, Kochi - 22)

**Smt. Nancy Mathew** “*Studies on metal complexes of some tridentate acylhydrazones*” (Dr. M R Prathapachandra Kurup, Professor, Dept. of Applied Chemistry, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Vanaja K A** “*Growth and characterisation of p-type delafossite transparent conducting thin film for heterojunction applications*” (Dr. S Jayalekshmi, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Nandhu M S** “*Bone marrow cells differentiation to neurons in the rat brain using serotonin and gaba: their role on glutamate receptors, ip3, camp and cgmp functional regulation in unilateral parkinsonism induced by 6-hydroxydopamine*” (Dr. C S Paulose, Director, Centre for Neuro Science, Dept. of Bio-technology, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Seema Varghese** “*Studies on some generalizations of line graph and the power domination problem in graphs*” (Dr. A Vijayakumar, Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Gopakumar C** “*Development and analysis of a novel isosceles trapezoidal dielectric resonator antenna for wireless communication*” (Dr. K T Mathew, Professor (Retd.), Dept. of Electronics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Varsha G** “*studies on simple and encapsulated transition metal complexes of schiff bases derived from diamino-naphthalene*” (Dr. K K Mohammed

Yusuff, Professor (Retd.), Dept. of Applied Chemistry, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Shamji V R** “*Studies on beach morphological changes using numerical models*” (Dr. N.P. Kurian, Head and Scientist ‘F’, Marine Science Division, CESS, Trivandrum)

**Sri. Siby Zacharias** “*The effect of sales promotion on consumer based brand equity*” (Dr. James Manalel, Professor, SMS, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Manjusha K P** “*Isolation and characterization of glycosaminoglycans and a study of its bioactive potential in two commercially important species of cephalopods, loligo duvauceli and sepia pharaonis*” (Dr. Saleena Mathew, Professor, School of Industrial Fisheries, Cusat, Kochi-16)

**Sri. Ansalam R J T G** “*Analysis and optimization of machining process using evolutionary algorithms*” (Dr. V.N. Narayanan Namboothiri, Head Division of Mechanical Engineering, SOE, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Smitha C K** “*Marine benthos of the continental shelf of southwest and southwest coast of india*” (Dr. R. Damodaran, Professor (Retd.), Dept. of Marine Biology, Microbiology & Biochemistry, Cusat, Kochi-16)

**Smt. Laly K** “*Transition metal complexes with ring incorporated thiocarbonyl groups: Syntheses, structures and spectral properties*” (Dr. M R Prathapachandra Kurup, Professor, Dept. of Applied Chemistry, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Nandagopan O.R.** “*Investigations on structural response of water backed perforated plates*”

(Dr. C G Nandakumar, Reader Dept. of Ship Technology, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Rajesh K M** “*Studies on photocatalysis by nano titania modified with non-metals*” (Dr. S Sugunan, Professor (Retd), Dept. of Applied Chemistry, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Jossia Joseph** “*Studies on ocean surface layer responses to atmospheric forcing in the North Indian ocean*” (Dr. A N Balchand, Professor, Dept. of Physical Oceanography, Cusat, Kochi-16)

**Sri. Saji T G** “*Fundamental approach to valuation of securities-a study with reference to information technology (it) sector shares in indian stock market*” Dr. S Harikumar, Professor, Dept. of Applied Economics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Smt. Beena V B** “*Reproductive biology and biochemical changes associated with flowering of dendrocalamus stocksii and ochilandra travancorica*” (Dr. K.K. Seethalakshmi, Scientist-F, Programme Coordinator, S.F.M Division, KFRI, Peechi-680653)

**Smt. Sangeetha K Prathap** “*Financial inclusion of fisher households in coastal kerala: role of microfinance*” (Dr. Meera Bhai M., Head, Dept. of Applied Economics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Ajayakumar C B** “*Queues with postponed work under n-policy*” (Dr. A Krishnamoorthy, Professor (Retd), Dept. of Mathematics, Cusat, Kochi-22)

**Sri. Tintu R** “*Fabrication and characterization of chalcogenide nano composite based materials for photonic device applications*” (Dr. Sheenu Thomas, Asst. Professor, Centre of Excellence in Lasers and Optoelectronic Science, Cusat, Kochi-22)

## Campus Notes

### Best Paper Award to Dr. Mridula

Dr. S. Mridula, Associate Professor, Division of Electronics Engineering, School of Engineering, Cochin University of Science and Technology, was awarded the session's best paper award for presenting a paper titled 'Time Domain Modelling of a Band-Notched Antenna for UWB Applications' at the International Conference on Design and Modelling in Science, Education and Technology organized by the International Institute of Informatics and Systemics at Orlando, Florida, USA, during November 29 - December 2, 2011.

She received the award from Dr. Jeremy Horne, President - Emeritus, Southwest Area Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), USA.

### Cusat Scholar Receives Best Thesis Award

Ms. V. Pramitha, research student in Department of Physics

(Applied Optics Division), Cochin University of Science and Technology, received best thesis award in the DAE -BRNS National Laser Symposium organized by Indian Laser Association in January 2012. The work was done under the guidance of Prof. C. Sudha Kartha, Prof. Rani Joseph and Prof. K. Sreekumar of Cochin University of Science and Technology

### Cusat Scholar Receives Best Poster Award

A poster entitled "CPW fed mobile antenna with reduced RF interference towards human head" submitted by Sujith Raman, Laila

D and P Mohanan, was selected for the Best Poster Award in *Science and Society*, at the recently concluded Kerala Science Congress 2012, held at Kottayam. This is the outcome of work carried out for the development of a compact, hazard - less planar antenna for mobile gadgets, at the Centre for Research in Electro Magnetics and Antennas, Department of Electronics, Cochin University of Science and Technology. Sri. Sujith is also the recipient of URSI young Scientist Award 2011, held at Istanbul, Turkey for his study on mini-antennas that work on micro wave frequency.



The Cusat Shuttle Badminton Team which qualified for the All India Inter University Championship with Dr. Ajith Mohan, Deputy Director, Physical Education, Cusat.

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***Glimpses of AIU AGM hosted by Cusat***

