

COLLEGE DAY REPORT BY THE PRINCIPAL ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2005

Aum Amriteswaryai Namah !

Distinguished Chief Guest – Dr. E. Balagurusamy, Vice Chancellor, Anna University, respected guests in the audience, parents, colleagues and students -

I am proud to present this brief report of the college for the current year.

### **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS.**

The academic performance of the student community is the touchstone of the Institute's performance. I am proud to report that

- the seventh batch of BE students passed out last April. The performance was best in the University – the pass percentage exceeds 96.
  
- We have 18 University Rank Holders – including the first ranks in Production Engineering and Polymer Engineering.
  
- Our 5<sup>th</sup> MCA batch passed out last June with 98% results and two University Ranks including the first one.

The last two B.Tech. batches of Anna University (2001-2005 and 2002-2006) have secured the BEST results in the University in the even semester. Our students also finished first out of 250 and odd colleges affiliated to the University.

I am very happy to report that the very first batch of our M.Tech. Program in VLSI Design (affiliated to Anna University) passed out in May 2004 with CENT PERCENT RESULT and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> ranks being from our college. These are highly creditable achievements considering the fact that these ranks are for the whole University.

### **COURSES**

At present we offer B.Tech. courses in 8 streams –

CSE, ECE, EEE, E&I, IT, ME, Pordn. Engg. and Polymer Engg. With total intake of 640 students.

At the PG level, we conduct the following courses:-

- MCA and M.Sc. (Software Engineering) with an intake of 60 students and 40 students respectively.
- M.Tech. programmes in VLSI Design with an intake of 25 students; Engineering Design, Manufacturing Engineering, Computer Vision and Image Processing and Power Electronics with an intake of 18 students each.
- Apart from above, a Center for Computational Engineering and Networking has been established which runs a novel M.Tech Programme.

An International Doctoral Symposium in “Computer and Information Science Engineering” marked the launch of a world-class doctoral programme at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham (Deemed University), Ettimadai, Coimbatore on 19 December, 2004. More than 80 research scholars from all the premier engineering institutions in the country like IITs, IISc etc. presented their research findings before a distinguished panel. The panel included Dr. Satish Tripathi - Provost of the State University of New York – perhaps the highest ranked Indian academician in USA. Padmashri Dr. N. Balakrishnan of Indian Institute of Science launched the doctoral programme of Amrita University.

### **POST GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH**

A committee for Postgraduate Studies and Research (CPGSR) is formed. D. P. Nagabhushan, Distinguished Professor in Computer Science, is its Chairperson. The doctoral program has been launched; close to 50 candidates have already registered for it.

### **ACADEMIC INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

We have Class Rooms, Drawing Halls, Seminar Halls, Auditoria and Conference Rooms, Convention Center etc. in adequate numbers.

Our library is now functioning from an independent and spacious building. It has about 30,000 volumes of high quality and CDs, Videos in ample numbers.

We subscribe to about 300 International Technical Journals and more than 200 Indian ones. We ensure that all current and good technical books in the international arena are procured and stocked in our library.

A new and spacious building – IT Block - of 1,50,000 Sq. mt. of built up area is getting ready. With that we shall have enough room for our expanded activities too.

Ours is one of the best libraries amongst engineering institutions in the South. Research scholars and faculty members from many neighboring institutions make ample use of the same.

Our computer laboratories are equipped with the latest machines and Sun Workstations in a network. They are fully networked. The computer facility is accessible for our academic family from 6 AM to 11 PM – all the year round. The computer staff is proud of their low down- and maintenance-times and the fact that no user has to wait to access computer at any time.

Our CAD/CAM Lab of 35 workstations and VLSI lab of an equal number of workstations and PCs are loaded with the latest and widely used software in the respective fields. These are at the core of the PG Programmes.

A Metrology Laboratory, Automation Laboratory, Image Processing and Computer Vision Laboratory are additions with state-of-art equipment and systems. They are expected to give a fillip to research programmes in the offing.

The campus network is connected to Internet through multiple links via a leased line and a wireless link. The internet access is already available in the departments. The same is planned to be extended to the hostels too.

### **E-LEARNING STRATEGIC INITIATIVE**

Amrita University has the unique distinction of becoming a fully interactive, multimedia capable, multi-disciplinary virtual university – perhaps – the first of its kind in the nation. This was enabled by means of a state-of-the art satellite network for education and research linking all its campuses at Coimbatore, Bangalore, Kochi and Amritapuri. This network was launched by Our Beloved

AMMA, Her Holiness Mata Amritanandamayi Devi and Padmabhusan Dr. Madhavan Nair, Chairman of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on 15 May, 2004 at Amritapuri. At Coimbatore the simultaneous launch was done by Prof. V.S. Ramamoorthy, Secretary, Dept of Science and Technology, Govt of India.

A state-of-the art E-learning Studio with simultaneous synchronous LCD panels was launched at Ettimadai campus by Kris Gopalakrishnan, COO of Infosys on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2004. This studio and e-class room is the front-end of the high bandwidth satellite network. It enables interactive classroom sessions across all four campuses of the university in the states of Tamilnadu, Kerala and Karnataka. The facility for instruction can be accessed on a 24X7 basis through 1.5 Mbps bandwidth channel.

Some of the distinguished speakers at this studio include Shri S. Ramadorai, CEO, TCS, Shri Ketan Sampath, President, Intel Technologies, India, Dr. T. Kesavadas, Associate Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engg., State University of New York, Buffalo, Dr. S. Karthik, Managing Director, Analog Devices India, Bangalore, Mr. John K. Paul, Managing Director, Popular Automobiles Limited etc.

### **OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES**

Our hostels can accommodate about 2000 boy students and more than 1000 girl students. An independent full-fledged guesthouse is available in the campus.

50 family quarters of different categories inclusive of bungalows accommodate our staff in the campus. Bachelor accommodations are additional. Our aim is to provide accommodation for all our staff here in due course.

## **NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN THE CAMPUS**

A state-of-art telephone exchange of 420 line capacity has been commissioned here by BSNL. It will cater to our needs as well as those of the surrounding areas.

## **FACULTY**

Identifying competent academic people is a continuing process for us. We have more than 250 faculty members – (a figure well above the AICTE norms.) and a matching number of technical and non-technical supporting staff. Staff for Kitchen, Diary, Security, Transport, Gardens, Maintenance and similar centralized facilities provided by the Ashram, is in addition to these.

## **STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS.**

Many staff members have completed their higher studies and rejoined duty and others are in the process of completing their respective Doctoral and Masters courses.

We are aware that an academically competent and committed faculty makes a difference to our Institute. We extend all encouragement to our faculty to do ME/M.Tech. and do Ph.D work – full time as well as part time. We encourage them to do research, publish and present papers in quality technical journals and seminars etc.

With our thrust in research, a number of research proposals are in the pipeline. Some have already been approved and are being executed.

Some of our faculty have delivered Guest Lectures, Invited Lectures etc. at different National Level Conferences.

Close to a hundred of our staff were sponsored for seminars and conferences to facilitate their getting updated in respective areas.

Another hundred attended short term courses in their respective disciplines.

**Award for Director-Research** - Dr. V. Radhakrishnan, Director – Research has been conferred the Achievement Award (Academic), by the All India

Manufacturing Technology, Design and Research Conference, a forum of country's eminent researchers, academics, designers and practicing engineers in the field of Manufacturing Engineering, for his significant and well acknowledged contributions to research, teaching and development.

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.**

The research potential and investigative acumen of many students is evident early enough.

Jayaram and Vinoth of final year Mechanical are patenting a 'numerical coding scheme of human skeletal machines.' They – along with Manoharan and Sandipani Nayak presented a related paper at the Annual Conference of the Association of Anatomists. They delivered guest lectures on the theme at Amrita Institute of Medical Science, Cochin.

Mr. Dominic Mario Francis, Ms. Anu Smrithi, Poornima and Anita of III year IT excelled at the annual simulation contest at IIT Madras – the only group outside of the 'elite IIT' crowd to be so recognized.

Sri Unni Suresh of III year Production has come out with a novel fridge-cum-heater – of the low cost variety. He is hooked on to a user friendly helmet now. Mr. Kaustubh Beedkar and Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh of Second year IT have won an exciting software contest at an inter-collegiate conclave and bagged cash prize of Rs.5000/- in the bargain.

Dinakaran and Sharavanan of Polymer Engineering walked off with the first prize at the technical conference at MIT Pune.

Sri Javid of final year IT too did it at Vellore.

An International Conference on 'Discrete Mathematics' and its Applications was organized by the Department of Mathematics. It was well attended and well received.

Other conferences and workshops were on

High Performance Computing (by Cen & ASB)

Cleaner Manufacturing in Industries (Productiong Engineering)

Sustainable Development through Green Manufacturing (M.E. Dept.)

Digital Libraries (Central Library)

Many of these were supported and sponsored by Research Agencies like AICTE, ISRO, DSGT and the like. The short term programmes and intensive courses organized were :-

Digital Signal Processing and Applications (ECE)

Simulation, Analysis and Design of Power Electronic Systems,(EEE Dept.)

Practical Application of Melt Rheology in Polymer Processing (Polymer Engineering)

Some of them were supported by AICTE.

A Symposium on 'Cultural Education in India' with assistance from HRD Ministry of Govt. of India was held in the campus.

### **DRDO TEAM VISIT TO OUR CAMPUS**

A senior scientific team from Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) visited the campus on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2004. The team was led by Padmashri Dr. A. Sivathanu Pillai, Chief Controller (R&D), DRDO and CEO BrahMos and other senior scientists.

The eminent visits seem to have emerged from an 'elite who is who' list. It includes

Eminent Academicians and industry people like –

Dr. R. Krishnan, Director – Advanced Data Processing Research Institute(ADRIN), Hyderabad,

Dr. Amit Bindal, Researcher, Colorado State University, Dr. SSSP Rao, Professor and Head, Computer Science Dept., IIT Mumbai,

Dr. R.K. Arora, Professor and Head Computer Science Deptt., IIT Delhi,

Dr. V.S. Hegde, Dy. Director – Applications, ISRO,

Mr. K. Sethuraman, Frequency Management Officer, ISRO,

Mr. Himanshu Singh, Executive Director, India and SAARC, Cadence Design Systems,

Dr. K. Mohandas, IAS, Secretary – Higher Education, Kerala,

Mr. M. Shankar, IAS, Secretary – Rural Development New Delhi,

Dr. Anand Anandkumar, CEO – Magma Design Automation, Bangalore,  
Dr. S.D. Dhodapkar, Sr. Scientist, BARC, Mumbai,  
Mr. Jayaramkrishnan, IIT Kanpur,  
Prof. Vijay K. Vardan, Distinguished Professor of Engineering – Pennsylvania  
State University have visited our campus during the year.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

We offer facilities for a variety of Extra Curricular activities. Sports and games are the key ones here. Our students and staff participate in them regularly. They take part in different competitions in the region. The annual sports meet was held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of this month. Anandamayi team won the overall championship with 287 points followed by Amritamayi team with 211 points as runner-up. Mr. R.K. Arun Karthik Babu of III IT from Anandamayi team bagged the men individual championship by scoring 20 points and Ms. M. Pushpa of III IT from the same team bagged the women individual championship by scoring 15 points.

Mr. S.B. Raam Mogan, Raman, Former Indian Basketball Player distributed the prizes.

In the zonal Weight Lifting, Power Lifting and Best Physique competitions of Anna University, Karthick of III IT, and Kamalakannan of IV ME won gold medals in the respective categories. Kirthika Malini of IV IT and Kumaran of III M.Sc. have been selected for the inter-zone Ball Badminton and Football teams respectively.

Ms. C. Radhika of III B.Tech (Information Technology) was selected as “Best Singer of Coimbatore” during the Kovai awards 2004 held at Coimbatore in February.

For some it is quizzes all the way. At the instance of the celebrated quiz master Sidharth Basu. Janson Business School Coimbatore conducted a quiz contest. Vinayan and Rahul of II ECE won the second prize there.

Rahul Vijay, Suraj and Rajesh Prabhu of IV ECE waded through different levels of quiz contests and bagged the TVR Memorial Rolling Trophy at the State Level.

### **CELEBRATIONS**

We encourage our cultural values and activities to be sustained. GOKULASHTAMI and GURU POORNIMA are events in this connection. Days of National importance like Independence Day and Republic day are also being celebrated in a befitting manner.

**AMRITOTSAVAM** is our annual cultural festival and this function is its culmination.

A variety of events and competitions are organized on these occasions. Anandamayi team won the overall prize for Amritotsavam with 170 points followed by Jyotirmayi team with 112 points.

All these are celebrated with full involvement and enthusiasm.

“Talent Search” is the annual event to identify creative and literary talents amongst the first year students, so that the same can be nurtured in the years ahead.

### **SPICMACAY**

Under the aegis of SPICMACAY talented and renowned artists come to our campus and perform here. We had the privilege of having Carnatic Classical Music Concert by Bombay Sisters – Ms. C. Saroja and Ms. C. Lalithia – on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2004.

### **RAGASUDHA**

The Music Club of AITEC performed on many occasions like Amritotsavam, Guru Poornima and Gokulashtami celebrations.

### **NATYASUDHA**

Natyasudha, the dance club of the Ettimadai campus conducted its first event on 13 December, 2004 with a dance performance by Mrs. Nandini Venkat Rangan on the theme, “Amrita Natananjali – AMMA’s Childhood Biography”. The music for this piece was composed by the renowned violin maestro, Padmabhusan Lalgudi Jayaraman and the lyrics in Sanskrit written by Prof. K.V. Dev, an eminent scholar.

### **AMRITA PRAKRITI SAMRAKSHANA SAMITI**

The Nature club of AITEC is active. It organizes nature treks, afforestation drives, seminars and workshops to promote eco-awareness

### **NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME and YOUTH RED CROSS ACTIVITIES**

#### **NSS Special Camp**

An NSS camp was conducted at Masthigoundenpathy village, Madukkarai Panchayat union from 24 December, 2004 to 2 January, 2005. The activities included clearing up of the primary school and its surroundings, construction of a 170 feet compound wall for the school for which the necessary materials like cement, stones, sand etc. were supplied by Mata Amritanandamayi Math. Seminars on effective utilization of water resources and soil conservation, procedure to be followed in getting bank loans on Govt. welfare programmes, particularly for women self help groups and self-employment, medical camp, eye camp for the benefit of youth and elders of the village, sports, bhajans and cultural programmes.

Mr. S. Jeyakumar, NSS Programme Officer of our Institute, received an appreciation aware “Best Blood Donation Service Award” from the Blood Bank of Coimbatore Medical College.

An AIDS awareness programme was conducted on 8.12.2004 at our institute. More than 200 students were participated in the programme.

11 volunteers participated in the peace rally on “AIDS awareness” organized by the Indian Red Cross Society, Coimbatore on 1.12.2004.

At present 3 NSS units are functional with Mr. S. Jeyakumar, Ms. S. N. Jeyanthi and Mr. V. Sugumaran being the Program Officers.

Amma’s charter is to mould socially committed professionals. In line with that we want to make every student to be involved inn a service activity. We are already moving in this direction.

### **HAM CLUB**

The Amrita Amateur Radio Club {Ham Club} has been functioning steadily; it has “disaster management” as a key activity.

### **SRISHTI**

Srishti – The Literary Association organizes innovative literary programmes on a regular basis.

### **RELIEF OPERATIONS AT TSUNAMI AFFECTED AREAS**

TSUNAMI wrecked havoc in our east coast. Before most of us realized the full import of this, our Swami Abhayamrita Chaitanya was missing! All I could assure our community here was that he seems to be alive and KICKING at Nagapattinam. In another day, half of our Ashram – it is the backbone of our operations here – was there. Our Vice-Chancellor addressed the students of the need of the hour. Then there was no stopping them. They are all afire with enthusiasm to play their role. Day-in and day-out they went to Coimbatore and neighbouring areas and collected new clothes, provision and money. Our Ashram staff transferred them to the relief front with tireless involvement.

We were the first to reach these sites and set up relief camps, temporary shelters for the victims, serve food, clothing, medicines etc. Under the auspice of Mata Amritanandamayi Math, construction work of pucca houses for the victims will be started soon.

Batch after batch of our student volunteers have spent a week or two at Nagapatinam in relief related activities. For them, it is an experience of a life time. For me too –

personally – it is an experience talking to them. I tell myself ‘AMMA!, your children here will not let you down. They will hold your torch high!’

That bard – HARINDRANATH CHATTOPADHYA – when he sang :-

-‘Youth is truth

-Youth is future’

did he mean the Youth at Amrita?

### **AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM COIMBATORE CAMPUS STAFF CONTRIBUTE RS. 6 LAKHS TOWARDS TSUNAMI RELIEF**

All staff members of the Amrita schools of Engineering, Amrita School of Business and Amrita School of Journalism at Ettimadai have graciously contributed 1% of their annual salary for the Tsunami relief efforts. This along with the contributions from the students amounts to 6 Lakhs. It will be significant contribution will be utilized for the relief activities being undertaken by the Mata Amritanandamayi Math.

### **SERVICE**

The 51<sup>st</sup> Birthday of Her Holiness Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma) was celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at Amritapuri, Kollam, Kerala. Our students and staff have actively participated in the celebrations as volunteers.

### **AITEC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (AITECAA)**

AITEC Alumni Association is very active. The Alumni is making a concerted effort to mobilize funds to provide financial assistance to the needy students. The annual meet was held on 20<sup>th</sup> of February, 2005.

### **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**

Messers N. Udhaykumar, R. Swaminathan and S.K. Ramakrishnan of the ECE 2004 batch presented a paper at a well-known Student Research Workshop at Boston, Massachusetts, USA last summer. It was one of the 10 selected papers at the international level. Their trip to present the paper was financed by a Professional Association at MIT.

Mr. R. Kannan of BE-CSE 2004 batch put on a splendid show for the District Level Philatelic Exhibition, Kovaiapex conducted by department of Posts in March 2004.

C.J. Srinivasan of BE-CSE-2002 batch was awarded Commonwealth Scholarship. He will be specializing on Intelligent Systems with a focus on Natural Language Processing (NLP) applications.

Sandeep Unnikrishnan of 1996-2000 batch Bachelor of Engineering (BE) -Production Engineering has been selected by the University of Aachen, Germany as this year's foreign student with outstanding achievements. He received the award from DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service (translated in German as Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst) on 26 November, 2004 at the town hall of Aachen. He is currently pursuing his Master of Science in Mechatronics.

### **CENTRE FOR CORPORATE RELATIONS (CCR)**

Intensive and close interaction with industry at various levels and layers is key to the maturing of an academic institution of our type. A separate CCR headed by Prof. C Parameswaran, Dean – Corporate Relations is our nodal agency here.

The center is literally on a war path. 50% of our first batch itself was placed through their efforts. With their focused functioning 805 students of our 2004 batches were placed when they were here. The tempo is maintained this year too. More than 50 well-known companies are lined up for campus interviews on a regular basis. The fact that quite a few of them are vying for a 'first-day slot' of selection in the coming academic year, speaks highly of the CCR team.

Personality development programmes by professionals, courses in foreign languages like Japanese, French and German, coaching for GATE, GRE are regularly organized by the Center. The center also plays a key role in organizing industrial training for students and staff, in consultancy, in selecting student projects, arranging guest lectures and so on.

Many companies conduct their mass recruitment programmes involving many colleges, here. It speaks highly of our CCR that they are prepared to take pains to organize these and make available our – rather Amma's – facilities to the larger public.

A separate building for CCR with training halls, auditoria, discussion rooms and direct Internet access is planned.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Since the inception of its educational activities at Ettimadai, Coimbatore in 1994, Mata Amritanandamayi Math has been providing Merit-cum-Means scholarship for poor and deserving students. In the last academic year, 48 students have been provided with this facility, with the Math incurring an expenditure of Rs.11 Lakhs. This academic year – 2004-05, the scholarship has been extended to 62 students with Mata Amritanandamayi Math incurring an expenditure of almost Rs.13 Lakhs.

Financial support from State Welfare & Tribal Welfare Board, a number of other organizations like TNEB, SBI and various trusts are apart from this.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Amritarpan, our quarterly news letter, is distributed amongst our staff, students and alumni. Our college website is also being updated regularly with special features like Virtual Campus Tour, Search Engine. In the last one year, the website had more than 8 million visits.

AMRITADHWANI, our college magazine contains various articles, technical papers, etc.

Every generation is more evolved than the previous one – the Saint Historian Arnold Toyenbee brings this out in an emphatic manner through his study of human history. A baby weaned off its mother, has the mother's cultural environment as its stepping board. It marches ahead and in the best of cases excels – the parents are naturally proud. In a way Anna University is our mother; we are being weaned off. Sir, we too have ambitions and dreams. We want to evolve into an ideal Vishwa Vidya Peetham (Universal abode of knowledge) as soon as possible. Please give us that parental support, that 'parental hand' and let us give shape to our fancies. Let us not be hindered by someone else's fancies.

I will rather be bolder –

Let us be mature  
Let us hold hands  
Let us march ahead  
Chanting in chorus  
Asato ma sad gamaya!  
Tamoso ma jyotir gamaya  
Mrityor ma amritam gamaya

On behalf of all of us – staff and students, I offer humble pranams at the lotus feet of Amma. As we march ahead, our confidence and commitment will remain un-wavered.