

Dear alumni, sponsors, friends, students, staff, colleagues and well wishers of the Biochemistry Dept,

HOPE YOU ARE ALL STAYING SAFE DURING THE COVID19 PANDEMIC!

This is an update from us regarding the centenary celebrations of the Dept of Biochemistry. As most of you are aware, three major events were planned during the Centenary year (Feb2020-Feb2021):

1. inauguration of centenary celebrations – 21st February 2020
2. Centenary conference and alumni reunion on December 10-12, 2020
3. Conclusion of Centenary celebrations on February 20, 2021

Of these, the Inauguration of Biochemistry dept. centenary celebrations was held as planned on 21st February 2020 and we had shared with you the program, photos and videos via emails. They can be accessed from the following web links:

<http://centenary.biochem.iisc.ac.in/centenary-inauguration-videos.html>

<http://centenary.biochem.iisc.ac.in/centenary-inauguration-gallery.html>

Articles appeared in *CURRENT SCIENCE* and *THE HINDU* about the dept on the eve of centenary inauguration:

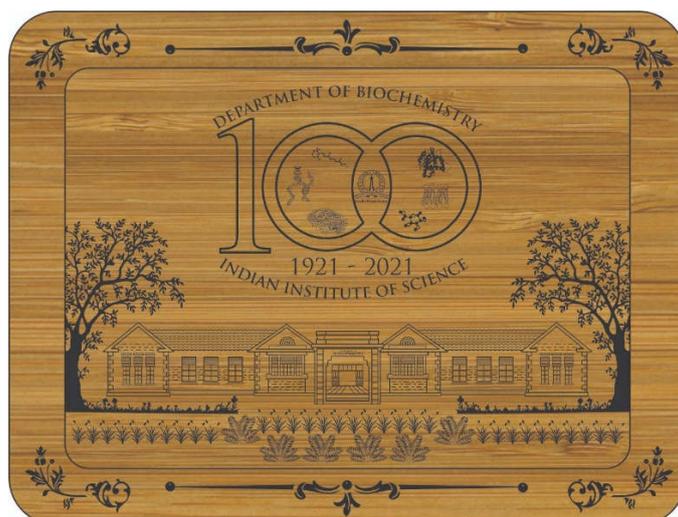
<https://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/118/03/0331.pdf>

<https://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/118/06/0869.pdf>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/iiscs-biochemistry-department-turns-100/article30944866.ece>

The highlight of the inaugural ceremony was the exhibition (which is still on display in the department lounge) highlighting the contributions of all the faculty members of the Dept. which was appreciated by one and all.

We also distributed mementos to all the alumni who attended the inaugural ceremony, thanks to the sponsorship of Dr C K Manjunath, an alumnus of the Dept.



We propose to hand over more mementos to alumni in the centenary conference & alumni reunion.

We thank all the alumni, current students, faculty and staff of the Dept as well as all the sponsors for the overwhelming support both in terms of participation, ideas, as well as contributions.

We were hoping that covid 19 pandemic will be contained to manageable levels both globally as well as in India and we can go ahead with the events planned in December 2020 and February 2021.

However, after the national lock down was lifted, the no. of fresh cases of covid19 is increasing every day at an alarming rate in several cities in India including Bangalore and epidemiologists predict that it is likely to reach 1.0 lakh cases per day by August/September 2020. Right now, it is difficult to predict the situation in the coming months and in view of this, we have no other option but to postpone the alumni reunion and International conference events planned in December 2020 as well as the concluding session planned in February 2021. It will now be held in the year 2021 and the exact dates will be announced in due course. In the meantime, we are exploring other options of organizing webinars and we will keep you posted.

Finance:

Thus far, we have received ~Rs.46 lakhs from Alumni of the Dept:

<http://centenary.biochem.iisc.ac.in/alumni-sponsors.html>

We have also received contributions from industries, IISc, companies and government agencies (~Rs. 17 lakhs):

<http://centenary.biochem.iisc.ac.in/government-agencies.html>

<http://centenary.biochem.iisc.ac.in/corporate-partners.html>

We have spent ~22 lakhs for the Inaugural ceremony held on 21 Feb 2019.

The estimated budget for Alumni reunion and International conference originally scheduled in December 2020 is Rs. ~50 lakhs. This will be raised through Registration fees, voluntary contributions from Alumni, govt. agencies, companies and corporate sponsors. Those who have already contributed will be automatically registered for the Alumni reunion & Centenary conference-2021. **We are also planning to establish a CENTENARY CORPUS FUND and plan to approach corporate houses, industries, philanthropists and alumni. Any help from Alumni towards this effort will be very much appreciated.**

We hope that the success of the inaugural event will encourage more alumni to contribute generously both for alumni reunion & International conference-2021 as well as corpus fund.

Sincerely,

D N RAO
P N RANGARAJAN
Organizing secretaries

June 30, 2020