



## Finally, a GBM!

A General Body Meeting of the CSA was held on the evening of 16th March. While a welcome step towards greater accountability and transparency in the CSA, the GBM had poor attendance and was the only one of a constitutionally-mandated four (2 a sem) that need to be held to uphold democracy on campus. The GBM consisted of presentations (where CSA members flaunted completed agenda points and other achievements), panel rounds (where the members were grilled on the authenticity of their claims and unfulfilled promises) and audience rounds (where the audience fired questions, absurd and pointed alike, at the CSA). While the Treasurer and Vice-President put up lackluster performances and stumbled on transparency and accountability, the General Secretary was quick to defend completed agenda points (fixed- but high- taxi rates, Adhaar Card drive, guitar classes, etc.), shirk responsibility (an outdated Gensec's Corner on CSAtimes), take credit (Nirmaan and Mana Maali Marathons) and question the leanings of the panel. The President put up the strongest performance of the four, trumpeting progress achieved during his term (room deliveries by on-campus food outlets, ongoing talks with MIT media labs, etc.) and providing status reports on unfulfilled agenda points (cashless campus, inter-BITS sports meet, etc).

## Marathon Fever Grips Campus

BITS Goa was represented by its largest-ever marathon contingent, **(92 runners)** at the Goa Marathon, which was held in Panjim on 13th March, 2016. Organized by the El Shaddai Charitable Trust with Goa Athletic Association, the marathon raised funds for 'safe and decent homes for families in need' and 'educational centres for children in Goa'. BITS Goa put up a strong showing, with most of the participants finishing their runs within stipulated time limits. The marathon also spurred the creation of the open-for-all BITS Athletics Club, aimed at promoting 'general fitness and competitive athletics' on campus.



Fastest finishers from BITS -

Category	Name	Timing
10k Women	Nikhita Shetty	01:10:05
10k Men	William Henry Spates	00:45:08
21k Women	Mrinalini Padmanabhan	02:51:49
21k Men	Nikhil Sharma	01:45:27

## CAMPUS WATCHOUT!

WHAT?	WHEN?
Drama Nights: Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo Constellations Colour Blind	8th to 12th April 8th April 9th and 12th April 11th April
Dance Night	13th April
Cafeteria Reshuffle: A-mess Caterers start service Cafe Coffee Day comes to IC	1st April ---

## Campus Watch

BITS Goa held its first official **Open Mic Event** on the 14th of March, organized by the Alumni Affairs Division. The evening saw Garv Malik, the Notepad Guy, and Punit Pania from "Chalta Hai Comedy" judging and performing at the event. Besides a flurry of performances by BITSians, the highlight of the event was the stand-up act by Nishant Suri, a 2011 BITG alumnus, who is an engineer turned stand-up comedian.

A special seminar was held by the Physics Department on 29th Feb. about **Gravitational Waves** and their detection, wherein Dr. Kinjal Banerjee explained the definition of gravitational waves, the process of their detection and the future outlook.

An **Optical Astronomy workshop** was conducted by Celestia from 8th to 10th March wherein students were taught how to read celestial coordinates and skycharts. Other interesting activities included tracking an asteroid and plotting the curve of the varying brightness of a variable star. An **astrophotography exhibition** was also held along with the workshop.

The Quiz Club, BITS Goa, participated in the cultural fest ('Incident') held at **NIT Surathkal** from 2nd-6th March and brought home several accolades. The team consisting of Sangeeth, and Varun Prasad stood **1st in the General Quiz** and 3rd in the India Quiz, while Sangeeth came 4th in the Lone Wolf Quiz.

The much awaited '**Music night**' was conducted on 15th February. The eclectic performances continued well past midnight and left the crowd hungry for more.

## Economics Conclave

The Economics Conclave organised by the Department of Economics on the 12th and 13th of March, 2016 was an event aimed at promoting sustainable growth and development by focusing on various economic, social, institutional and environmental issues primarily faced by India. It involved talks by professors from diverse backgrounds ranging from public policy and human resource development to entrepreneurship.

Many eminent speakers such as Prof. Sudhakara B Reddy (IGIDR, Mumbai), Prof. N C Narayanan (IIT-Bombay, Mumbai), Prof. Ashwani Kumar (TISS, Mumbai), spoke on various topics which stimulated critical thinking.

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