



Calcutta University Science College Alumni Association

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Newsletter Volume 1.1 November 1997

About Ourselves

CUSCAA - What it Stands for

Inauguration

First Annual General Meeting

Picnic

Communications with the Science College, Calcutta

Books and Software

Homepage

Important Information - Job Opening

Directory Updates

Activities in Progress - Financial Award

Logo Competition & Fund Raising

ABOUT OURSELVES

The leaves have started to turn colors, the gorgeous summer afternoons are slowly fading into memory and the day start and end with a nip in the air. Fall is here as yet another year has gone by. But it has been a year that all of us should be proud of Calcutta University Science College Alumni Association (CUSCAA), which was but a dream when a few among us talked about it in the Fall of '95, has become a reality. It has already created a link between us and our alma mater, the Calcutta University Science College.

Originally, the idea was that in the Washington area, a forum needed to be established that would bring together the alumni of the great institution. When the first flier was circulated during the Puja Festival in 1995, the initial callers had no idea about the kind of response it would generate. And yet by May 1996, when the Alumni Association was formally inaugurated, it had collected a roomful of members and a page full of agenda. Members voted for the name CUSCAA in this meeting and made another important decision: CUSCAA will not have elected office-bearers; there will be a Working Committee to carry on the routine activities but the idea is to involve as many members as possible in all its activities. It was decided that CUSCAA would establish communications with all the departments in the Science College and provide support that may be necessary from time to time. It was decided that CUSCAA would supply books, publications and other information upon request to the departments of the Science College, provide information and assistance to students coming to the US for higher studies, encourage interaction in a reciprocal manner and arrange seminars for the visiting members.

CUSCAA held its first annual get-together for its members in November 1996, when the first annual general meeting was held. This meeting approved the brochure, formed the Working Committee and resolved to move forward. The meeting ended with a cultural program.



The annual meeting was followed by an exciting and truly enjoyable cultural programs like Rabindra Sangeet, recitation Nazrulgeeti, Bhajan and Mime theater.



CUSCAA members enjoying a very palatable and delicious dinner with varieties of foods and sweets.

By the time CUSCAA held an outdoor picnic in May 1997, it not merely turned out to be a great success as a social event it actually celebrated the fact that its efforts were receiving serious attention from our alma mater. The Physics Department had asked for some books and the Computer Center had asked for some software. We have recently sent some books and the software to them which was highly appreciated.

And yet we have only begun. We have a lot more to do. One of the things we will be pursuing this year is to involve more people from North America who are what they are today because of Calcutta University Science College.

CUSCAA - WHAT IT STANDS FOR

Established In May '96 In Washington D.C., CUSCAA wants to promote a continuing relationship between its members and the various departments of the Calcutta University Science College. In view of the limited resources currently available with the organization and its members, it has been decided that the association will focus on the following areas:

- a) provide information/support to undergraduate /graduate students coming to the US for higher studies.
- b) disseminate information to US Institutions/schools in the various departments of Calcutta University Science College,.
- c) explore the feasibility of extending manageable financial assistance to various departments of Science College (e.g., scholarships, stipends, awards etc.),
- d) provide information on:

- International scholar exchange programs.
- Job opportunities/summer internships.
- College ratings, information about fellowships to graduating high school children of CUSCAA members.
- Establish a network among CUSCAA members and that friends for exchange of information.

e) CUSCAA will organize fund-raising events In the future when its activities expand.

EVENTS

Since inception, the following activities have taken place:

INAUGURATION

Date: Sunday, May 5, 1996
Ace Pilgrim Hill Recreation Center
1615, East Randolph Road,
Sliver Spring, MD 20284

The meeting was organized to have an initial interaction among the members in the Washington area and to discuss the basic objectives of the Association. A Working Committee was elected to coordinate all the activities. The members agreed to pay an annual membership fee.

FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date November 16,1996
Place: Briggs Channy Middle School
Silver Spring, MD.

Almost every member from the area attended the meeting. A brochure containing information about the objectives and future activities of the Association was formed end a Directory containing the names and addresses of members was circulated. it was decided that CUSCAA would contact alumni staying in other parts of North America who would be encouraged, if they so desired, to form their own regional chapters. it was decided that the membership fee would be \$20 per year. The members unanimously agreed to continue with the ad hoc Committee which became the Working Committee. The new Committee, however, wanted active participation from more volunteers and as a result, some new members joined the Working Committee.

PICNIC

Date: Saturday May 31, 1997
Place: Rockcreek Regional Park
(Lake Needwood)

More than 70 CUSCAA members enjoying the annual picnic with varieties of foods and sweets.

The picnic was a great success. More than 70 people attended. The weather was great and so was the food. There were party games and some members broke out into spontaneous live music performance. it was a day to remember.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCIENCE COLLEGE, CALCUTTA

Some of our members, Ranjit Dasgupta, Gopal Kundu, Utpal Mukhopadhyay, Madhuchhanda Mukhopadhyay and Tapas Makar visited Calcutta and established contacts with some key persons in the various departments of the College. When Dr. R N. Basu, Vice Chancellor of the University of Calcutta and Dr. J. Mondal from the Department of Psychology visited Washington D.C., Tarak Bhar met them and informed them of our initiative. Dr. Basu expressed appreciation on our efforts.

BOOKS AND SOFTWARE

CUSCAA and its members have sent the following books and computer software to the Science College.

Books:

1. An introduction to Quantum Field Theory by Peskin and Schroeder
2. Elements of X-ray Crystallography by L. Azaroff.

Software:

1. Visual C++ for Windows 3.1
2. Visual Basic for Windows 3.1
(The above two were sent by our members Sunanda and Santimoy Basu)

3. Matlab for DOS 6.2/Windows 3.1
4. Labview for Everyone - Graphical Programming
(The above two were sent by member Tarak Bhar)

We have received a letter of appreciation from the Head of the Department of Physics and the Director, Computer Center, University of Calcutta, acknowledging the receipt of the books and the software.

HOMEPAGE

A homepage has been created by Rupam Bhar, son of our member Tarak Bhar containing our goals and objectives on the internet The page also contains a membership application form. We will be periodically updating information on this page. Members are encouraged to send suggestions or information to the homepage. Email in this connection may be sent to :

Tbhar@erols.com or, Mukho@aol.com

The url for the homepage is <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Parthenon/1257>

Added by the editor on Jan 25, 1998: This address is now changed to www.cpcweb.com/cuscaa.html

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Job Opening

A suggestion has been made that CUSCAA should publish information about job openings (including

summer jobs) in the organizations that the members are associated with. Members willing to share such information should contact Tarak Bhar so that the information can be circulated through the newsletter or the Homepage.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Members are requested to check the relevant information about themselves in the Directory which has already been circulated. For changes, they should contact Shyamal Pal at (301)298-8492.

Added by the editor on Jan 25, 1998: Do not contact Shyamal Pal , please contact Dilip Som @ 301-424-9439 or dsom@cpcweb.com

ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS - Financial Award

CUSCAA is proposing to introduce some awards to recognize academic excellence among the first year science college students in the University of Calcutta. Guidelines for these have been formulated and will be finalized in the Second Annual General Meeting scheduled to be held on November, 1997.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Logo Competition

CUSCAA needs to design its own logo as a part of establishing its identity. Members including their family members are requested to design the logo and send it to Tarak Bhar/ Madhuchhanda Mukhopadhyay by November 30, 1997. The Ad hoc committee will select the best entry which will get a token award of \$25 as a mark of appreciation.

Fund Raising

CUSCAA should try to raise funds for expanding its activities. A suggestion has been made that CUSCAA should print T-shirts and make decals for use by members and their friends. Members are requested to give their suggestions in this regards to Tarak Bhar and Madhuchhanda Mukhopadhyay.