Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics Alumni Association

SINP Complex, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics 1/AF, Bidhannagar; Kolkata-700 064

(Reg. No. S/1L/83290 of 2011-12)

Secretary's Report for the year 2015 – 16

President Prof. S.K.Samaddar and Members of the Association,

On behalf of SINP Alumni Association let me welcome you all to this Annual General Body Meeting of the Association for the period 2015-16.

I report here some important and worthwhile Association related information like academic programmes, organizational activities and other relevant matters pertaining to the year 2015-16:

Members & Office Bearers of Executive Committee of SINPAA for 2015-16

The following are the Executive Committee (EC) members of the Association for the year 2015 – 16.:

Prof Santosh Kumar Samadder(President) / Prof. Jadunath De(Vice-president) / Prof Radhey Shyam(Vice-president) / Prof Harashit Majumder(Secretary) / Prof Sudeb Bhattacharya(Treasurer) / Prof. Amitava De(Jt. Secretary) / Prof A.I. Zaman (Member) / Prof. Pranab Chaudhury (Member) / Prof Tarun De(Member) / Prof Samita Basu (Member) / Prof Maitreyee Nandy(Member)

Academic Activities

Secretary reported that an Half-day Seminar was organized by the Association on November 27, 2015 where Prof. Asit Banerjee, Retd Prof., J.U., Kolkata, talked on "General Theory of Relativity – The Power of Speculative Thought" and Prof. Jayanta K Bhattacharjee, Director, HRI, Allahabad, spoke on "Time Dependent Perturbation Theory in Quantum Mechanics and the Renormalisation Group". Both the lectures were heard by a packed audience with rapt attention and these were lucid and specially highly educative for the younger audience. SINPAA has also arranged an Half-day off-beat seminar on Global Warming and the Effects of Climate Chang in March 2016. Prof. Tushar Chakrabarty (Sr Scientist, IICB, Kolkata) spoke on science of global warming and climate change, and its scientific solution in his talk entitled "Environment at Crossroads: The Planetary Limits" Another speaker Prof Dipankar Dey (IBS Business School, Kolkata) discussed in details "The Political Economy of Global Warming".

Organisational Matters

After the last AGM we arranged altogether 5 formal EC meetings, few informal ones and 2 formal meetings with the Director of SINP. The main subjects of discussion in EC meetings were academic programmes, possibility of undertaking a project on authentic documentation of past academic activities of SINP(see future programme below), launching of an e-Bulletin etc etc.

In the meeting with the Director we discussed about renewal of allotment of Room 209(First Phase) for use as SINPAA office and related matters. Director assured us not to worry about short period of extension. Secretary requested the Director to issue some sort of ID cards to the alumni members who are not the retired faculty of the Institute so that they can freely enter into the Institute and have access to library facility. Director replied that at present this may not be possible due some administrative problem; however these members may freely enter the Institute on production of any kind of their own ID card or on the basis of any authorised appeal to SINP security by SINPAA officials. Director also enquired about other available facilities and instructed the Registrar to see that all sorts of necessary facilities are provided.

Ongoing & Future Programmes

Though the Association decided to bring out an e-Bulletin, we could not start it owing to lack of technical help regarding launching mechanism and requisite minimum publishable matter. Now that we have some assurance from Computational Science Division we hope to start the bulletin in few months. The main probable contents of

the proposed e-Bulletin may be : report on organizational and academic activities, important correspondence by alumni, articles by alumni and invited authors and other relevant matters.

The following names were suggested as the subject-coordinators for the proposed project on authentic documentation of past academic activities of SINP:

Biophysics & related: Profs Rabi Majumdar, Arun Pal, Pradip Sengupta

Chemical Sc & related: Profs. S.N. Bhattacharya, N.R.Das, Samir Sarkar, Amitava De

Nuclear Phys & related:

Exp/ Profs. M L Chatterjee, Sudeb Bhattacharya, Ashim Ganguly, Swapan Basu, Palash Bannerjee Theo/ Profs J.N.De, S.K. Samaddar, S N Mukherjee, L.S.Satpathy

Plasma Phys & related: Profs B Dasgupta, M.S. Janaki

Solid State Phys & related: Profs Bikash Chakrabarti, B.G. Ghosh, Pranab Chaudhury

Surface Phys & related: Profs Debashis Basu, Debabrata Ghose

Theoretical Phys & related: not yet decided

This list is, by no means, exhaustive. Any interested and committed alumnus/current faculty member is always welcome to join as coordinator.

Though discussion on specific topics, format and methodology of documentation is not complete it was preliminarily decided that initial efforts on documentation will consider outstanding scientific activities of SINP in the glorious period of, say, 30 years or so. Simultaneously, if possible, there will be attempts to collect, synthesize and prepare documents on research activities of later years (may be up to 2000 and beyond).

Prof Rabi Majumdar put forward a proposal of holding a whole day/half-day seminar on a specific topic in Biophysics some time in next January/February,2017. Here selected speakers (from alumni and present faculty) will present past development (by alumni including their work) and present continuing work in that field by the current faculty.

A very preliminary discussion has started with Mr Ritankar Pal, son of Late Prof M.K. Pal, about instituting and funding an Annual Endowment Lecture in memory of his father.

New Membership & Financial Matter

Since last AGM we have 7 new life members(total 136). Prof Mohan Aggarwal (PhD student of Late Prof J K D Verma), now Chairman of Dept of Phys. Chem and Mathematics of Alabama A & M University, USA, has applied for life membership of SINPAA and he has agreed to help us in our project on documentation of past glorious activities of SINP. The financial health of the society seemed to be same as in last year inspite of lower collection from membership fees (and donation) but there is little more FDs this time.

Miscelaneous

With deep sorrow and heavy heart the Secretary reported the sad demise of 2 senior alumni members and 3 retired professors of SINP. Prof. Manoj K Pal,a renowned scientist, eminent teacher and ex-director of SINP passed away on March 3, 2016. Prof Triptesh De, who retired from SINP in 2002, died on July 25, 2016 after a protracted illness. Prof Arunaditya Mukherji, a retd. prof of the then Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics Division of SINP, passed away on September 24,2016. Prof Binayak Dutta Ray, a popular teacher and Prof Haridas Bannerjee died on October 4, 2015 and November 15,2015 respectively. Both were well established in their fields of research

Conclusion

I hope the next EC will complete the unfinished jobs and pursue more appropriate activities to fulfill the objectives of the Association.

Finally I thank our President, Prof. Santosh K Samaddar, Vice-President Prof J.N.De and Prof M.L. Chatterjee for their constant help and advice. My gratitude to the Council members for their commitment and cooperation in all activities of the society. I gratefully acknowledge the help and support from SINP director in regards to infrastructural and other facilities needed to carry out our programmes.

I now present this report for your kind perusal.

Kolkata December 14, 2016 (Prof. Harashit Majumdar) Secretary, SINPAA

(Prof.S.K Samaddar) President, SINPAA

Secretary

President

SINP Alumni Association Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics l/AF, bidhannagar