

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2021

Student Association Board

Editorial - Nimisha Verma, Maulia Mahirani

AS SAB BOARD 2021, IT IS TIME TO SAY GOODBYE AND WELCOME THE NEW FACES. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND WE ALL WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022!

- Prashant, Tanuj, Nimisha, Ruhi, Som, Maulia, Arvind and Enzo



MESSAGE FROM
PRASHANT PANDIT

Dear All,

It's time to say goodbye. My tenure as a SAB chair has come to an end. It was my pleasure working for you and with you 😊.

When I took this role, I was unsure how I would manage, but your support and time taught me. I learned a lot. I have made more cherished memories and many more new friends.

As a SAB, we tried to give our best. I hope that all the things we have done have helped you in some small way. Being a chair SAB, I was fortunate to have a nice team. I was proud of the work effort that my team did during the corona and handled all the situations very well.

My tenure has ended, but I can promise I will be there for you as a friend and colleague and try to help you out if you needed. Have an excellent time ahead. I wish you all the best!

Happy New year 😊



SOM MISHRA - GENERAL SECRETARY

The year has come to an end, and with it, so is my tenure as SAB Vice-president/General Secretary. I was very fortunate to be a part of this wonderful group whose sole purpose was the betterment of student well-being at ITC. I am glad to reach out to most of you personally and nearly all of you through my mail announcements. I am grateful for the memories you all helped me make at ITC. So a big thank you to each and every one of you for helping me carry out my duties and forgiveness if I ever fell short of meeting your expectations. Cheers to the bonds we make on this roller-coaster of a ride we call life!



ENZO CAMPOMANES - COMMUNICATION

Being part of SAB was an interesting experience for me. It was my first time in any student board or council, and just wanted to try it out. The adventure was a learning experience full of ups and downs throughout the year. Things could have been better, but that's life. Nevertheless, together, we pulled through in the end and would like to think we made the students happy.

NIMISHA VERMA - ACADEMIC

So, I am writing this as I complete this newsletter. This has been an eventful year, and it's so bittersweet to be saying goodbye to this position and SAB. Being in SAB gave me the opportunity to meet and work with many awesome people.

But as always - Change is the only constant, and you have to move on. So, with so many memories and so much experience, I would like to say thank you to SAB members and the ITCfamily. It will always be incredible being part of ITC! Thank you, everyone! and all the best to our successors!



ARVIND GAUNS - FINANCE

As Uncle Ben told spider man that "With great power comes great responsibility". The pandemic brought a lot of challenges with it. From wearing masks to online lectures things were hard. It's said that "Your story may not have such a happy beginning, but that does not make you who you are, it is the rest of it- whom you choose to be" - Soothsayer from Kung Fu Panda. Well it's evident to all what SAB has been doing throughout the year under the leadership of Prasant. I am sure our successors will continue the same legacy.

Cheers.



RUHI BEGUM - GENDER

I am Ruhi, a student of Urban Planning and Management. I worked as a Gender Commissioner at SAB-ITC. It was a fantastic journey as a board member. Together with other SAB members, we organized various events, from distributing New Year Gifts to all Students at ITC and ending with Secret Santa. One of the memorable events for me was organizing Women's Day. It was a great experience. SAB gave me an international platform for self-exposure. I thanked all the SAB members, Students Affairs and Jorien Terlouw for helping and motivating me during this journey.



MAULIA MAHIRANI - SOCIAL

It was an honour to work with SAB. I had a great time and awesome experiences with amazing people. Thank you all for being a great colleagues!

All the best

TANUJ PAREEK - RESIDENCE/SPORTS

I am Tanuj Pareek, Sports and Residence commissioner at SAB-ITC. I consider myself fortunate to be a member of SAB-ITC, and the experience I have gained is priceless. Meeting new people, attempting to solve their problems, and continuing to learn in daily life was a fantastic journey. It all started with learning to reach an agreement, understand other people's points of view, and communicate your ideas. I also learned to work as part of a team, complete tasks, manage expectations, and strike a balance between different students' interests. Managing our time effectively for SAB and studies was a major challenge, but we succeeded.

I'd like to thank David Korringa and Bianca Haverkate for their assistance with my role as residence commissioner and Wan Bakx and Simon Engelberts for their guidance with my role as sports commissioner; of course, thanks a ton to my SAB people and student affairs who have supported me throughout this journey.



70 YEARS OF ITC! - A CELEBRATION

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Although ITC completed 70 years in 2020, the celebration took place in 2021 due to Corona. The week from 26th October 2021 to 29th October 2021, ITC celebrated the 70 years with programs dedicated to bringing the #ITCFamily together from all around the world. A set of flags were hung around the ITC building, made by the faculty and students from the clothes from their countries, which added a special touch to the celebration. With each day focused on a particular topic, various speakers worldwide were invited to share their experiences through research seminars, invited speakers and a diverse range of activities.



One of the highlights of the whole program was the opening of the “UT-ITC Centre for Disaster Resilience (CDR)” by H.R.H Princess Margriet of the Netherlands. H.R.H Princess Margriet has always been closely involved with the Netherlands Red Cross throughout her career, ending her term with Red Cross in 2011 as the Vice-president of the organization. To mark the Princess’ 75th birthday in 2018, the Red Cross and the University of Twente established a chair in her name. The Princess Margriet Research Chair, part of the Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) at the University of Twente, focuses its research activities on building resilience against natural disasters and climate change (<https://www.royal-house.nl/members-royal-house/princess-margriet>).

Mr Jelle Ferwerda, Research Coordinator at ITC and Ms Annelies Klos, Research Management Assistant at ITC, lead the organization of the whole event.

The first day was focused on “Food Security and Biodiversity”, led by Thomas Groen and Elnaz Neinavaz, both from the NRS department. The Dean of ITC – Prof. Freek van der Meer opened the celebration week followed by various sessions about food security, biodiversity etc. Geo-Health was the topic for the second day of celebration on 27th October, led by Ellen-Wien Augustijn from GIP and Carmen Anthonj from EOS. Karin Pfeffer from PGM opened the day. The theme for the third day was “Hazard, Risk and Resilience”, led by Cees Van Westen (ESA), Dinand Alkema (ESA) and Funda Atun Girgin (PGM). The opening of the UT-ITC Centre for Disaster Resilience (CDR) also took place on the third day.



The last day of the celebration was focused more on various activities like PhD Publication Award Ceremony awarded to Rosa Aguilar, Schermerhorn Relay, where you cover a distance using sustainable and environmentally friendly methods. ITC also bid farewell to all the staff members who retired during the Corona period.

We got in touch with Ms Annelies about her experience with the organization of the event. Here is what she has to say about it.



In October ITC celebrated it's 70th birthday. Or, as was pointed out by former rector, and now chair of the ITC Foundation, we celebrated the establishment of the ITC foundation, which resulted in the Institute.

It was exciting to co-organize a program interesting for the whole ITC community. We planned three thematic scientific days and the fourth day we celebrated achievements in a pITCom session from and for PhD candidates and we provided a peek into the Open Science ambitions of ITC. Looking back we can conclude that the royal visit and the social components such as the Schermerhorn Race and making garlands for the building all came together quite nicely.

The three themes reflect domains in which ITC have a lot of expertise, and where the academics from several departments come together. The first day we focussed on food security and biodiversity. During this day, several exciting speeches on food security showed a peek into future research. In the afternoon a visit was made to the new Living Labs facilities on campus, and cleanup of the area around ITC took place. ITC focusses on healthy living and the domain GeoHealth reflected this nicely. At the end of the afternoon the ITC students showed their culinary skills, and hosted a very successful International Food Festival, one of the classic ITC events. On Thursday the presentations and discussions focussed on the theme Hazard Risk Resilience and the way to bring together ITC expertise in this exciting domain. On Thursday we also had visitors of the Royal type. Princess Margriet and Mr van Vollenhoven jointly opened our new Centre for Disaster Resilience, the result of our long running expertise in this area.

The event showed again the strength of the #itcfamily. This week of celebration organized jointly by many support staff and scientific staff.

ANNELIES KLOS



INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL



Here are some of the sources which you can use to experience the event yourself:

<https://www.itc.nl/alumni/70-years-of-ITC/>

<https://www.itc.nl/about-itc/70-years-itc/programme/>

<https://www.itc.nl/about-itc/70-years-itc/>

GeoHero Channel -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMPTYbtzl2Ia2EX1D1c10AQ>

<https://www.itc.nl/news/2021/10/149893/opening-of-centre-for-disaster-resilience-by-her-royal-highness-princess-margriet>

<https://www.itc.nl/news/2021/11/209981/rosa-aguilar-has-been-awarded-the-itc-phd-publication-award-2021>

Grand Opening DISC - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4Qp7rXiqak>

GEOHERO CHANNEL - ITC

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During the Celebration week for 70 years, ITC launched the "GeoHero YouTube Channel". The channel will share the knowledge and showcase the talent within ITC. The information-sharing will follow an informal setting where the students or staff can share their interests with the world.

So far, fourteen videos have been uploaded to the channel. The topic ranges from "What is food security" to "Using AI to map deforestation". The most exciting part of this channel is that it is open to anyone from ITC. The informal setting makes it interesting to share with your family and friends because, let's be honest - not many people understands what we do. :P

Here is what ITC says about the GeoHero channel -

As an ITC staffer you are a GeoHero yourself, and your contribution is very valuable!



If you want to talk about an interesting or fun topic or have something important to share about the GIS field, please don't hesitate to contact "Ivan Oliveira", who is responsible for the GeoHero Channel. You can contact him via the email - i.oliveira@utwente.nl.

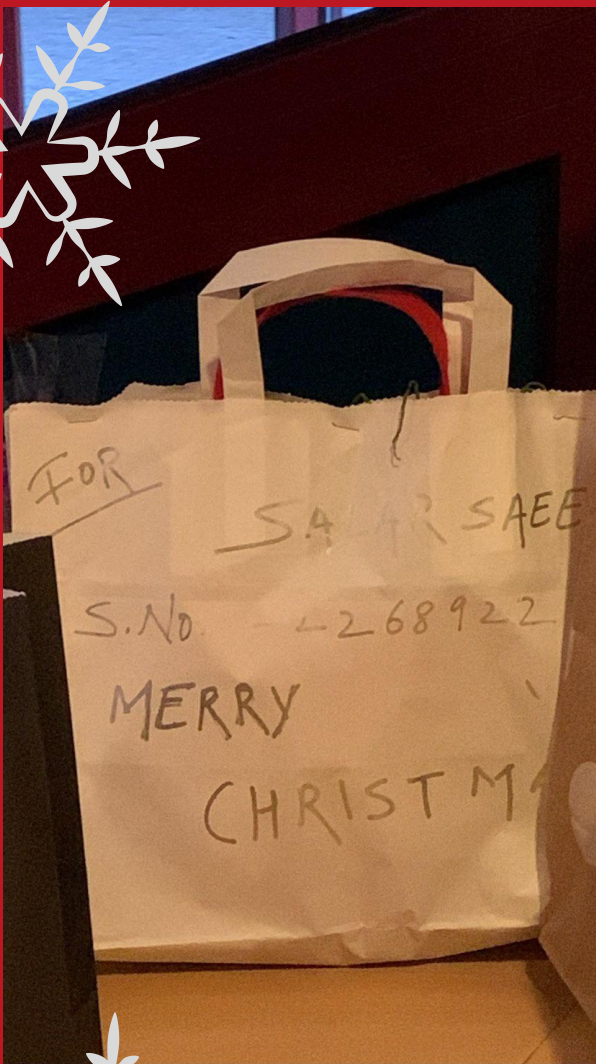
Please follow the GeoHero channel through this link - <https://www.youtube.com/c/GeoHeroes/featured>.

And don't forget to share them with your family and friends.

SECRET SANTA

EDITORIAL BOARD

SAB organized an end year event called Secret Santa in December. It is a surprise holiday gift exercise during Christmas time where people who register for the event are assigned a secret Santa. The holiday season and gift exchange bring joyful experiences between ITC peers, even if they don't know each other (yet). Although the fun was limited due to corona measure, we hope every one of you had a fun time during the gift exchange.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022

And it is already time to introduce the successor of Student Association Board, so let's all welcome the new faces of SAB 2022!



STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022

MICHAEL BATAME - PRESIDENT

I am Michael Batame, affectionately known as Mickey. I was born in Ghana. I was the President of the Geography and Resource Development Students' Association and the University of Ghana YouthMappers at UG. Currently, I am pursuing a master's degree in ITC, with a specialization in Natural Resource Management at ITC. I am a passionate and highly motivated person who avails himself to take up leadership positions to drive the interests of people. It is against this background that I decided to join the SAB. In my role as the president, I will draw on the experience I have gained over the years to champion and address the well-being of ITC students. My hobbies are reading, dancing, cooking, and watching movies.



KAGUSI PAULO - GENERAL SECRETARY

My name is Kagusi Paulo Kagusi student at the Faculty of ITC majoring in Masters of Geoinformation Science and Earth Observation specializing in water resources and environmental management.

Geoscience is my life, but also I like to be a part of society where I can dedicate myself to helping people's problems and find equality among them. Playing football and listening to music are my hobbies.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022



ARCHITA - COMMUNICATION

Hi! I'm Archita, the only Indonesian from M-GEO Urban Planning and Management in this batch. I previously studied Geodetic Engineering but got interested in cities instead. My two moods for my free time are either hanging out with friends or locking myself in my room to watch some tv series. I was brought here to SAB by the power vested in the holy-spinning-wheel from the Internet.



JOHN IFEJUBE - ACADEMIC

I'm John Ifejube, I was born and raised in Nigeria. I had my bachelor's in surveying and Geoinformatics, and I am here studying Spatial Engineering. While I am a very goal-oriented person, I believe our desire to discover, and then share that newfound knowledge helps to connect us all. I enjoy all sports, but I grew up loving football more. I am glad to be taking this role and I hope to be engaging as much as I can while doing so.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022

CHAMIDU GUNARATNE - FINANCES

Hi!! I'm Chamidu from Sri Lanka. I did my bachelor's in Geology and I'm currently doing my masters at ITC specializing in Applied Remote Sensing for Earth Sciences. I like exploring, chaotic adventures, rocks, books and hanging out with many different people. Most of the time you'd find me reading books in random places. I work as the Finance Commissioner in SAB and I will try to uphold my responsibilities as best I can.



AKSHAY KUMAR CHAPRANA - SPORTS

This is Akshay Kumar Chaprana, I'm from India and currently pursuing Master's in Geo-information Science (GFM). I did my bachelor's in Computer Science and One year PG Diploma in Remote Sensing and GIS. I received Gold medal for academic excellence for scoring highest marks in Remote Sensing and GIS. I am penchant for playing Judo and hold Gold medal at National level. My hobby is to play Badminton and visiting historical places. As a Sport commissioner, I will enhance my experience and apply my previous skills to give my best of abilities.



STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD 2022

AMANDA - SOCIAL/GENDER

Amanda is a highly motivated young woman from Ghana. She holds a bachelors degree in Geography and rural development. She currently specializes in natural hazards and risk reduction at ITC. She believes in empowering young women to go into science and technology and also take up leadership roles. To her leadership is an opportunity to serve by being a voice of the people as well as an inspiration to them, thus the main reason for her joining SAB. She serves in the capacity as the social and gender commissioner. A role she is passionate about since she believes the welfare of the students and gender equality is key in any thriving institution.



AHMED HEMOUDI - RESIDENCE

Ahmed has joined Geoinformation Science and Earth Observations with specialization in Land Administration and will be taking over the position of Residence Commissioner.



SIGNING OFF!

ONCE AGAIN! WISHING EVERYONE A GREAT
NEW YEAR 2022!

IMPORTANT CONTACT

Student Association Board - ITC - sab-itc@utwente.nl
Student Affairs - ITC - studentaffairs-itc@utwente.nl
Student Affairs Coaching and Councelling - UT - sacc@utwente.nl
University of Twente events - <https://www.utwente.nl/en/events/>
Study in Enschede - <https://www.studyinenschede.com/>
Student Union - studentunion@union.utwente.nl

