

Organization of the CITS

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Genesis: NCIT97:

In 1997, with mostly the initiative of Chitta Baral and Suchitra Patnaik, and active support of Pramod Meher, a meeting of many IT professionals took place in Utkal University. The funds for this were collected/donated by chitta baral and suchitra patnaik in cash and kind. Pramod Meher got the support of many local institutions to support e.g. lunch or some extra support. On 22nd december, in a meeting it was decided that (i) we may form a society called orissa information technology society, and (ii) that we may also have regular international conferences (cits) every year around 20th to 24th of december, which may help for the uplift of level of IT in orissa. Some other details may be seen in www.oits.org

We may regard this as a pilot project for cits. In 1998, it was renamed as cit98 instead of icit98 as there was that year another conference with the same initials.

CIT98: Organized by OITS, and Utkal University

OITS gave an amount of Rs.10,000/- to P.K. Mishra (kiit), the Finance Chair of cit98 as a very modest seed money from registration of core members. At that time, middle of 1998, OITS had been just registered and this was all the money available with it.

This conference was sponsored by (1) KIIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.60,000/-); (2) IISIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.50,000/-); (3) OCA, Bhubaneswar (Rs.25,000/-); (4) AIOL, Bhubaneswar (Rs.25,000/-); (5) NIST, Berhampur (Rs.25,000/-); (6) SIDBI, Bhubaneswar (Rs.25,000/-); (7) CDAC, Pune (Rs.24,660/-); (8) ORACLE Technology (Rs.19,600/-); (9) Silicon, Bhubaneswar (Rs.15,000/-); (10) RCM, Bhubaneswar (Rs.12,000/-); (11) IBCS, Bhubaneswar (Rs.10,000/-); (12) ITER, Bhubaneswar (Rs.10,000/-); (13) OSEDC, Bhubaneswar (Rs.10,000/-); (14) OEC, Bhubaneswar (Rs.9,500/-).

Amount collected by R N Mohapatra from USA in dollars (Rs.19,900/-; these contributions were by IEDSO, Somanath Behera, T. Mitra, Lalu Mansingh, Manoj Sahoo, Pradeep Lenka).

Registration fees: Rs.1,09,020/-. Of the above, Rs.62,474/- were collected by R N Mohapatra from USA in the form of dollars towards registration.

Hotel expenses: Rs.1,43,524/- including a banquet. Expense for Publication of Proceedings: Rs.77,620/-. Conference kit and printing (excluding proceedings): Rs.91,345/-

Balance: A little more than Rs.1,00,000/- including the advance was transferred to OITS. The account cit98 was closed. Audited account is available.

Remarks: The Conference was held in Hotel Prachi. Some other details written after the Conference may be seen in www.oits.org/icit98. The sponsorships from outside India and some from inside India were due to the efforts of R N

Mohapatra and others, including Laxman Mohanty and S P Misra. The academic program was due to R N Mohapatra and Amiya K Pujari, under the guidance of L M Patnaik, the general chair. P Meher was the organizing chair.

This conference, de facto the first one of the series, went off with a bang, and the success of the later conferences may be attributed to this beginning. In fact, it had the attendance of about 40 participants from outside India, The full support of P K Mishra of KIIT very much helped for this success.

CIT99: Organized by OITS:

OITS gave an advance of Rs.85,000/- to open the account cit99, to be operated by the finance chair J R Sahu (RRL). The conference was sponsored by

NALCO, Bhubaneswar (Rs.74,175) for Proceedings; (2) CSIR (GoI) (Rs.30,000/ (3) KIIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.25,000/-); (4) NIST, Berhampur (Rs.10,000/-); (5) CV Raman College, Bhubaneswar (Rs.12,000/-); (6) Others, Bhubaneswar (Rs.7,000/-).

Registration fees were Rs.1,44,414.70/-.

Hotel expenses: Rs.86,040.40/-, Expense for Publication of Proceedings: Rs.83,309/-(sponsored by NALCO), Conference kit (excluding proceedings): Rs.31,000/-

Balance: A little more than Rs.83,233/- was transferred to OITS excluding the advance. The account cit99 was closed. Audited account is available.

Remarks: The Conference was held in Swosti. This was the year of the super-cyclone in Orissa and even then it was a success. The sponsorships were effected by Sanghamitra Mohanty (Organising Chair), J R Sahu (Finance Chair) and S P Misra (oits) working as a team. The conference was ably guided by L N Bhuyan, the general chair. H Mohanty and C Baral as program chairs guided the academic programs with the help of the general chair. The success was also due to P K Mishra (KIIT), and R Ghosh, who helped in the final arrangements. Some other details shall be available in www.oits.org/cit98.

CIT2000: Organized by OITS and KIIT, Bhubaneswar:

OITS gave an advance of Rs.60,000/- to open the account cit2000, to be operated by the organising chair P K Mishra of KIIT. The finance chair S K Mohanty for personal reasons suggested this.

This conference was sponsored by (1) KIIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.1,30,750/-); (2) Lucent Technologies, USA (Rs.63,622/-); (3) CSIR (GoI) (Rs.50,000/-), (4) OSA, USA (N. Tripathy) (Rs.46,000/-, through OITS) (5) ESS, Bhubaneswar (Rs.37,962/-), (6) NIST, Berhampur (Rs.25,000/-); (7) T Daud (Rs.17,275).

Registration fees: Rs.2,04,815/- Lodging and boarding expenses at Hotel and KIIT: Rs.2,52,835/- = Rs.1,92,085/- + Rs.60,750/-. The KIIT expenses include guest house expenses + inaugural dinner.

Expense for Publication of Proceedings: Rs.1,13,755/- Conference kit and printing (excluding proceedings): above Rs.75,000/-

Balance: Rs.1,500/- was transferred to OITS excluding the advance. The account cit2000 was closed. Audited account is available.

Remarks: Inauguration was in KIIT and the Conference was in Swosti Plaza. Sponsorships from outside India were mainly with the initiative of Durga Misra, Program Chair. Some more details are available in www.oits.org/cit2000. The academic programs was ably conducted by the program chairs R K Ghosh and D Misra under the guidance of J Misra, general chair. Some other details are available at www.oits.org/cit2000.

CIT2001: Organised by OITS, and NIST, Berhampur:

OITS gave an advance of Rs.20,000/- to the account cit2001.

Sponsors for this conference were (1) Avaya Labs, USA, (2) Satyam computers, India, (3) NJIT, USA, (4) CSIR (GoI), (5) DST (GoI) with a total of Rs.2,17,501

Registration fees: Rs.2,36,826

Lodging and boarding expenses: Rs.71,683 (hotel)+Rs.2,26,843, Expense for Publication of Proceedings: Rs.1,70,823, Travel expenses: Rs.84,815

Total expense was Rs.7,60,042, of which NIST contributed Rs.3,05,715. But after the Conference accounts were finalised as above, in 2003 NIST contributed a further amount of Rs.22,000/-, so that the advance of Rs.20,000/- from oits is returned, a further balance of Rs.2,000/- paid to oits.

Remarks: The Conference was held in NIST Campus, and dinners in Oberoi. The sponsorships from outside India were mainly through the initiative of S Mohapatra (Organising Chair) and D Misra, secretary (overseas), oits.

The laboratories of NIST had a massive loss due to disturbances about a month before the conference. It is to be highly admired that NIST organized a very good conference inspite of that. Chita Das and P K Dash as the general chairs, and Prasant Mohapatra and Arun Pujari as the program chairs organized an excellent academic program, and the number of participants was beyond 200.

CIT2002: Organized by OITS:

OITS gave an advance of Rs.40,000/- to open the account cit2002, to be operated by the finance chair Debasish Jena.

Sponsors for this conference were Avaya Labs, USA (Rs.1,43,948/-) (2) Satyam computer services (Rs.72,585/-), (3) ITER, Bhubaneswar (Rs.25000/-), (4) NIST, Berhampur (Rs.20,000/-), (5) Silicon, Bhubaneswar (Rs.15,000/-), (6) KEC, Bhubaneswar (Rs.15,000/-), (7) IISIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.15,000/-), (8) KIIT, Bhubaneswar (Rs.15,000/-), (9) School of math, stat, and comp sc (Utkal Univ), Bhubaneswar (Rs.15015/-), S P Misra (for Narayan Misra IT award), Bhubaneswar (Rs.45,000/-).

Registration fees: Rs.1,44,414.70

Hotel expenses: Rs.86,040.40 Expense for Publication of Proceedings: Rs.1,22,319/- Conference kit (excluding proceedings): Rs.39,600/- Cash prizes for awards: Rs.14,000/-

Balance: About Rs.1,95,000/- was transferred to OITS excluding the advance. The account cit2002 was closed. Audited account is available.

Remarks: The Conference was held in hotel New Marrison (Old Prachi). The sponsorships from abroad were mainly with the initiative of D Misra, secretary (overseas), oits and Sagar Naik (Program Chair). From inside orissa, S Padhy (Organizing Chair), D Jena (Finance Chair), and S P Misra (oits) worked as a team. The general chair M R Kintala with the program chairs S Naik and Sridhar Iyer organized an excellent academic program. The special features of this conference were, (I) seven tutorials spread over six Institutions attended by over 500 students, and (ii) three best paper awards, two for best papers from among all the papers, and one from the papers from inside Orissa with a separate grant for this purpose. More details are available in www.oits.org/cit2002.

CIT2003: Organized by OITS and Silicon School, Bhubaneswar:

OITS gave an advance of Rs.40,000/- to open the account cit2003, to be operated by the finance chair Nitai Dhal.

Remarks: The organization of the Conference is now over. Sajal Das (general chair), and, Goutam Chakravorty and Sudeshna Sarkar (program chairs) have arranged an excellent academic program. Some special features of this conference (Dec 22nd to 25th) are (i) organization of two sets of tutorials, one (advanced) and one for the students on 25th, (ii) an industry session, (iii) a pre-conference symposium on 21st, in addition to continuing the two best paper awards, one from among all the papers, and the other from among papers submitted from Orissa. Laxman Mohanty is the organizing chair. More than 230 papers were submitted, and attendance was quite large.

Baance: The accounts are not yet finalised, and the advance from oits is yet to be returned.

Details are available in www.oits.org/cit2003.

CIT2004: Organized by OITS and hosted by (i) Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad; (ii) International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Hyderabad; (iii) University of Hyderabad (UOH).

General Chairs are Arun K Pujari and Chitta Baral. The program chairs are V P Gulati and Gautam Das, and, organising and finance chairs are Chakravarthy Bhagabathi and P Radhakrishna. Organisation of the conference is in full swing. More details are in www.oits.org/cit2004.

Special Remarks (Steering Committees):

During cit99, a committee comprising of Jayadev Misra, L N Bhuyan, Chitta Baral, Ratan Ghosh, Hrushikesh Mohanty among others proposed that the cit team for the kth cit may be decided by a steering comprising of the general chair(s), program chairs, of the (k-2)th and (k-3)th cits along with two other co-opted members as the steering committee. This was passed in the general body of oits held during cit99 on **22nd December**, and is being followed. However, the convention has been to associate as many members who have taken an interest in cits as possible, and then arrive at a conclusion, which I think is a healthy convention.

Following this, the announcement for the steering committee Prasant Mohapatra (Steering Chair of cit2003) as the convenor, was circulated among all oits members as well all associated with the previous cits in July, asking for suggesting a venue and the core team for cit2004. There were only two

suggestions: (i) H Mohanty suggested that it may be in New York, (ii) Arun Pujari suggested that it may be at Hyderabad.

Many oits members had thought earlier that once in a while cit may be held outside Orissa, and with overwhelming support for Hyderabad, it was finally decided by the steering committee that cit2004 may be held at that place as a function of oits, with Arun Pujari and Chitta Baral as the general chairs, who, on our request proceeded with discussing the arrangements. They have assured us that any participant from Orissa will be supported by the organizers regarding both travel and stay for the conference, and with this generous offer I am sure IT community of the State can really benefit a lot.

There were suggestions about changing the nature of the steering committees for cits at various times, and in the general body meeting of oits on 23rd december, 2003 the resolution as above was modified. It was decided that we may have four permanent members for the steering committee, Prasant Mohapatra, Rabi Mohapatra, Ganapati Panda, S P Misra (two from USA and two from India) along with the rotating members for the kth steering committee being the general chair(s), the program chairs, the organizing chair of the (k-1)th cit, along with the incumbent president of oits during the conference. The steering committee for cit2005 has been formed accordingly.

The success of the cits in the academic field has been due to participation of a large number of professionals, mainly academic, from all over India as well as from outside. This has helped to some extent in raising the level of IT in Orissa at the higher end, but clearly more effort is needed.