

A C TECH LEATHER & FOOTWEAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Activities of the Association during 2006 – 2007

1. Important decisions taken at the General Body Meeting of 24 April 2006 and their status of implementation

ALFA Charter: The ALFA Charter was reviewed and approved at the GB held on 24 April 2006. The Charter was formally released on 2nd November 2006 on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Leather Technology, AC College of Technology

Revision of Life Time Membership Fee

The Life Time Membership Fee for new members with effect from April 2006 has been revised to Rs 250/-

ALFA Cards: Issue of ALFA Cards for such members who have made a contribution of Rs 1000/- towards the DJ celebrations has not yet been taken up. This is on account of the fact that the related use of this card for use of library facilities at CLRI etc could not be established. The EC ALFA is in constant touch with CLRI administration for the same. Once these issues are sorted out the ALFA Cards would be issued

EC Constitution: The adoption of the EC constitution as 1 President, 2 Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Joint Secretary, a Treasurer and 10 members would be carried out in a phased manner. The process would be commenced from the EC of 2007-2009 onwards

2. **Executive Committee Meetings and their Outcome:** From 24 April 2006 till November 2, 2006, the executive committee of ALFA met 11 times, and on many instances on a weekly basis to work out the program schedules for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Leather Technology. The attendance at the EC meetings were high and decisions regarding the list of invitees, the life time and entrepreneur awards, venue, mementoes to the attending members etc were finalized. The contributions made by Shri CS Gnanasekaran, Shri B Ramalingam and others in garnering the funds required for the celebrations and the efforts of Dr J

Raghava Rao in coordinating with the printer for bringing out the Souvenir in time needs to be highlighted. The time to time interventions of the EC members on each and every minute aspect of the celebrations has resulted in the successful organization of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations with huge participation drawn from the industry, alumni and the press alike.

3. **EC meetings post November 2, 2006:** The EC met on 4 occasions after the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and took stock of the activities after the DJ celebrations. The organization of the Special Get together on 2 February 2007 at CLRI, the constitution of a selection committee under the Chairmanship of Dr T Ramasami and the meticulous planning for a smooth transition from the present committee to one under the Presidentship of Shri B Ramalingam are the significant outcomes of these meetings.
4. **Felicitations to Dr T Ramasami:** ALFA was the first of the organizations to Felicitate Dr T Ramasami on his being elevated to the post of Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, GoI. ALFA thanks Dr Ramasami for giving his time and continuing to play a pivotal role in the activities of ALFA. His efforts in enabling support and participating in the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Department of Leather Technology needs special mention. He found time for all the activities of ALFA.
5. **Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Department:** ALFA organized the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Department of leather technology. The valedictory function was held on 2 November 2007. Prof MS Swaminathan, Presided over the function, Prof MS Ananth was the Guest of Honor and Dr Zackariah Sait was the Chief Guest. The meeting held at Le Meridian was well attended by the alumni, the industry and the academy alike. ALFA presented the Life Time Achievement Award to Shri GSN Murthi and the ALFA Entrepreneur Award to Shri Ameenur Rehman. Dr T Ramasami, released the ALFA Charter and presented the way forward for ALFA. Prof Swaminathan highlighted the growth of leather industry and the need for bringing in a fourth counterpart – the farmer in the trinity of academy–research–industry. The ALFA essay awards were presented to students of AC College and the College of Leather Technology, Kolkata.
6. **Loss of Senior Alumni:** The Executive Committee ALFA records with profound sorrow the demise of senior alumni Dr PS Santhanam, Shri TSK Mahadevan and Shri MO Soundararajan. EC ALFA places on record their thanks and acknowledges the

contributions made by these alumni to the cause of leather sector and more importantly to leather education and ALFA in particular.

7. **ALFA Orator Award:** The EC ALFA in its meeting held on 2 February 2007 authorized the committee under the chairmanship of Dr T Ramasami to formulate the methodology for selection of alumni for the ALFA Orator Award of 2007 and years to come. The committee Accordingly the committee decided that the Orator Award would as much as possible follows a 4 year cyclic pattern.
 - In the first year, the award would be presented to an alumni who had made significant contributions to Research/Technology generation and dissemination in fields of relevance to leather technologists
 - In the second year, the award would be presented to alumni who has and continues to make a significant contribution to the Corporate world. Contributions made either as a Leader of the corporate world (predominantly the leather sector) or to an alumni whose contributions to the corporate leather sector has been phenomenal
 - In the third year, the award would be presented to an alumnus who has made significant contributions in the areas of marketing, HR management and advertising.
 - In the fourth year, the award would be presented to an alumnus who has made significant contributions to the leather product sector, either as an entrepreneur or through quality additions, control and design engineering

This year, the committee considered the nominations of four alumni who had made contributions in research, quality management and upgradation and corporate world. The committee which met on 12 April 2007 unanimously decided to confer the award on one of the senior most alumni who possessed all of the above qualifications. Dr Bhima R Vijayandran obtained his B.Sc Tech leather technology degree in 1962 and subsequently his M.Tech leather technology degree in 65 from the AC College of Technology. He has delivered the ALFA Oration 2007 in a manner befitting the cause for which ALFA stands.

8. **Significant milestones and achievements of the outgoing committee**
 - a. Organization of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Department of Leather Technology, AC College
 - b. Sponsoring a M.Tech student Ms. Punitha for the Euro Congress

- c. Institution of the ALFA Life Time Achievement Award, ALFA Entrepreneur Award and ALFA Essay Awards as a part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Leather Technology
- d. Declaration of the ALFA Charter and Way forward for ALFA
- e. Laying down norms for selection of ALFA Orator