



VESIT Connect

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Independence Day Celebrated At VESIT

-by Ujala Jha

Since our Independence in 1947, India has come a long way in these 70 years overcoming the clutches of Social disparity which prevailed for decades. We owe our freedom to those leaders and their heroic deeds which helped India for its current progress. To pay our tribute toward the dedication of those leaders, Independence Day was celebrated by VESIT on 15 th August 2017 at Sindhi Society Campus. All VES Staff members and the Student Council were invited for the occasion. Shri Dinesh Tahilani, Secretary, VES, graced the event and hoisted the flag along with recitation of national anthem which took place at 9.30 am at the Polytechnic Ground. The gathering was then addressed in the auditorium of VES college of Arts, Science and Commerce where plethora of enthusiastic events were planned.



The Tricolor Soaring High

The program kick-started by various students from all across the years presenting their valuable views highlighting true meaning of independence. They also delineated their idea of an ideal India along with ways it can be put into practice. After series of speeches, an eye-opening play was organized by students on social stigma revolving around gender equality and increasing female feticides prevailing across the country. Various talks and dramas were organized, this indeed served as a great awareness among the Vesitian's and hopefully will serve as an essential ingredients for fueling them towards country's growth and development.

Our own Music Council presented their first-ever performance during the program. The amalgam of various instruments to produce a perfectly blended song with patriotism as theme gave a widespread chill among the audience.

The event which was diligently organized had a soul in it. A soul that was vibrant, contagious and exuberant and which touched the lives of audience present at the moment. It came to a gracious end with thanksgiving speech for all students along with the recitation of Vande Mataram. Refreshments were organized for all the staff and students present after which they were bid adieu.

Larsen and Toubro Graduate Engineer Training Program

-by Souvik Saha

The Instrumentation Department of VESIT had conducted a Graduate Engineer Training Program for Larsen and Toubro, from 20 July to 9 August, 2017. It was an 8 day program. Over this time, VESIT was host to nearly 200 graduate trainee engineers from various renowned institutes like NIT, IIT and CoEP and diverse branches like mechanical, production, IT and chemical engineering who had come to get a hands on experience with the various devices in the field of Instrumentation. The sessions were held in lab 102, 103 and 104 and were conducted by the faculty of the Instrumentation department, with Mrs. Nilima Warke in charge of the whole program.

The trainees were taught about the basic fundamentals of Instrumentation and Automation like various sensors which are set up in the laboratories. They were also given demonstrations of the various process loops in lab 102/103.

This exercise was one of the many efforts of the department to work with various companies and stay up to date with the changing requirements of the industry.



Godse Sir addressing the students



Students at the L&T Premises

Looking Beyond Syllabus

-by Padmaja Borwankar

Our college, VESIT, is filled with tremendous new talent. To nurture this talent, every year, our college comes up with various activities. LBS (Looking Beyond Syllabus) project is one such impetus. Students from any branch can form groups of four and spread out their wings of creativity in an interdepartmental project. They have to come up with brilliant ideas, which they wish to see implemented in the real world. This year, the themes were quite diverse. It included some of the current topics such as Swach Bharat, Smart agriculture, Ways to improve education system in India, Tools to improve existing systems in VESIT and many more. The main faculty member in charge of this whole concept was Dr. Rajani Mangala. Each department had a separate project in-charge. The students had to submit their synopsis by 2nd August 2017 to their respective project in-charges. A group of esteemed teachers analyzed them and the selected list of projects was displayed on 8th August. The selection was done very judiciously. Only the projects, which had a good scope, were selected. The mentor allocation was done by 10th August. The mentors will be guiding the students throughout the semester and the projects are expected to be complete by the end of the academic year.

spRdh: Engage, Perform and Compete through Project Ideas

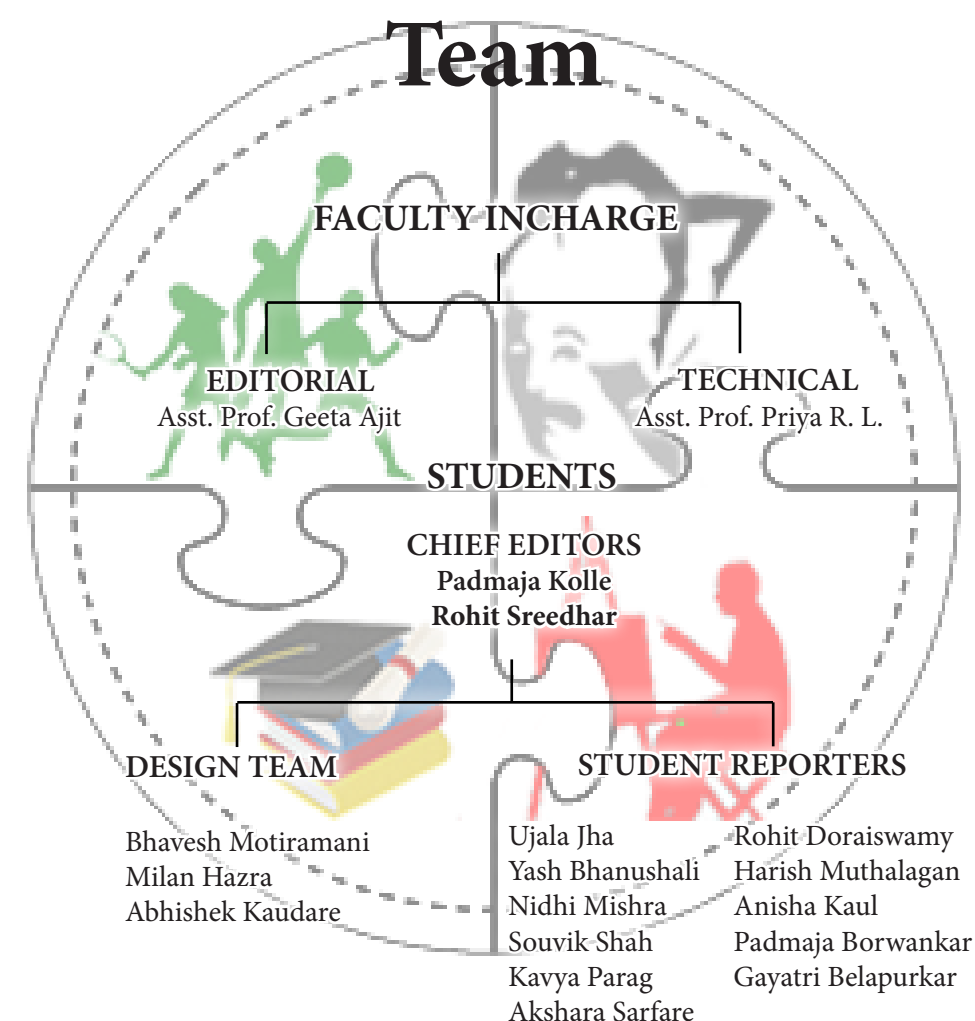
-by Padmaja Borwankar

Getting a high paying dream company is every student's passion. However, to make this possible, each one has to make ends meet. spRdh is one such platform which students use to express their creativity. It is a co-curricular activity in which students do a project on some innovative topic of their own choosing. This project is conducted by the Dept of Computer Engineering for its students. The students had to form a group of maximum four participants and submit their ideas by 12th August to the project in-charges; Prof. Priya R L and Prof. Mayuri Tharval. The project topics varied right from smart agriculture, GST calculator to electronic health record system. After it was reviewed by a panel of teachers, the final list of the selected projects was displayed on 16th August and mentors were allocated for each project. Students met their respective mentors and discussed on how to implement their project. The final synopsis was submitted along with the mentor's signature on 24th August. The mentors will be guiding their respective groups throughout the semester and the final projects are expected to be complete by the end of this academic year.

The 'VESIT CONNECT'

VESIT Voice

-by Rohit Sreedhar



Hello readers! August just like its name brings into VESIT some robust vibes as the semester accelerates into a full throttle mode. It is one of the most happening months of the semester with events swinging from placements to unit tests while other important events spring up in the due course. The fluttering flag and the awakening of the instilled edifice for the country is something that has to be translated from mere words into actions, the issue bears an ode to the motherland while we mark the 70th independence of India. This issue will have you informed about the recent technical markings of the month, which are the L and T workshop, LBS and Summer school program. While on the other hand, you shall get to know about the student council of the year 2017-18 who have sworn into their posts. Veslit jumped a notch higher by bringing into the college the debate competition by the TOI as the music council enthralled with Bliss. Get to know about who Nomura, GM, IVP and KakushIN picked up to be their employees and how they achieved their goals and how Sprdh and Bookswap had created a stir!

VESIT Diaries brings to you the story of Mr. Rishi Agrawal. He currently works as an Executive Director in Nomura Services India Pvt. Ltd. in Information Technology division. He belongs to the Batch of 2001 from the Department of Electronics.

Here's wishing you a lovely read through this and hope the semester smoothens its whip on you all!

COUNCILS

Building Forces: Council Formations 2017

-by Akshara Sarfare, Harish Muthalagan, Anisha Kaul, Rohit Doraiswamy and Gayatri Belapurkar

Cultural Council:

The VESIT cultural council for the academic year 2017-2018 was formed on 2nd of August, 2017. The election campaign took place the day before. The council was elected by the Cultural In-charges (CI) of all the classes comprising of SE, TE, BE and MCA.

The position for cultural secretary, deputy cultural secretary (senior) and deputy cultural secretary (junior) were contested by and voted by the class cultural In-charges. Mukta Chandani (D12A) was elected for the post of Cultural secretary. The members of the senior council are Vishal Israni, Sagar Karmakar, Nikita Patil, Gandhali Kulkarni and Mohit bhatia. The members of the junior council are Somesh Sidhwani, Vishaka Vidhani, Raj mendon, Amruta Parab and Abhinav Handoo. Mukta Chandani, the CS elected said, "I want to give our college exposure, give oppourtunities and create a platform for our students to come forward." Congratulations to all the students elected!



Cultural Council, 2017



Music Council, 2017

Music Council:

The VESIT Music Council for the academic year 2017-2018 was formed on 2nd of August, 2017. The election campaign took place the day before. The council was elected by music in charges (MI) of all the classes comprising of SE, TE, BE and MCA.

The positions for Music secretary, deputy Music secretary (senior) and deputy Music secretary (junior) were contested by and voted by the class music In-charges. Chinmay Warang of (D14A) was elected for the post of Music secretary. The members of the senior council are Rituparna Mukherjee, Pranit Rege, Rohit Singh, Ajay Prajapati and Shruti Pawar. The members of the junior council are Abhijeet Chowdhury, Manasvini Karthikeyan, Mrunali Kolte, Pushkar Dharmadhikari and Swastika Mazoomdar. Chinmay Warang, our elected MS went on to quote, "Music is one of the most beautiful part of a human being is life! Our goal is to have a vibrant musical scene here at VESIT! And I am sure that this year me and my council would bring about many amazing changes in the music scene of our college!"

SoRT Council:

Being part of the Gen Next, the Youth of 2020, it is WE who are expected to bring about the changes that the society wants to see in the years ahead. It is we, the youth, who are responsible to take the initiative and leave a mark on the world. We have to be the change the world needs. It is with these driving thoughts that the Social Responsibility Team – SoRT Council for the year 2017-18 was formed in VESIT.

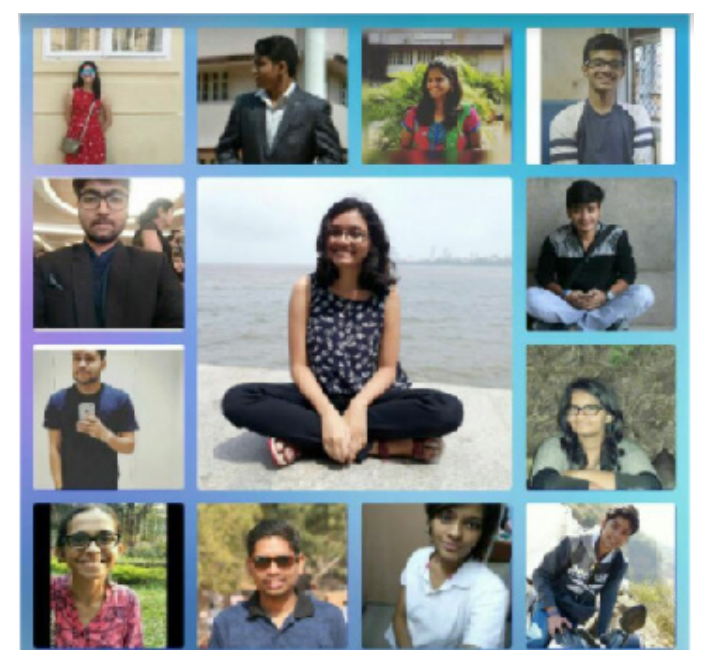
After a hard-fought election, involving riveting speeches in the college auditorium for the posts, Shreya Jangale (D10) was chosen as the SoRT Secretary. The SoRT in-charge from every class voted for twelve other SoRT posts which were contested and filled in by students from Second and Third year.

The SoRT Student Council 2017-18 is as follows:
Secretary: Shreya Jangale (D10)

Senior Council: Saurabh Khatri, Ritika Rajpal (D12A), Tushar P, Neha Prabhavalkar (D12C), Shailesh B, Siddhesh Chaudhary (D14A)

Junior Council: Vighnesh Joshi (D6A), Janvi Vora (D6B), Chinmay Mahale (D7A), Sumit Manwani (D7B), Vidhi Barwe (D6A), Meenakshi Agarwal (D7C)

With a few events already lined up in the odd semester, the Council preparations are in full-swing. We can be sure to expect wonderful things from this enthusiastic, motivated yet stoic council. We wish them luck in all their endeavours. Together, they might just make a difference!



SoRT Council, 2017

Sports Council:

The VESIT Sports Council for the academic year 2017-2018 was formed on 2nd of August, 2017. The election campaign took place the day before. The council was elected by Sports Incharges (SI) of all the classes comprising of SE, TE, BE and MCA.

The position for Sports Secretary, Deputy Sports Secretary (senior) and Deputy Sports Secretary (junior) were contested by and voted by the Sports In-charges. Madhuresh Pandey was elected for the post of Sports Secretary. The members of the senior council are Shweta Sankpal , Paras Suri, Harsh Jain, Prerna Balige and Shruti Akshay Auti. The members of the junior council are Anushka Chavan, Priya Singh, Shantanu Pimpalkar, Rishil Kirtikar and Devin Lilaramani. Madhuresh Pandey our elected SS went on to qoute,”Sports do not build character.They reveal it. I want to make sure that everyone in our college is able to participate in all the events conducted by the council. Sports Council of VESIT wants to guide the budding talents of the college on the right path. I am sure that we will be able to meet our goals for this year.”

Sports Council has conducted selections for Kabaddi, Kho-Kho and Basketball for the college teams. Many students showed up for these selections. Selections for other sports will be conducted after the Ganpati Vacations.

Indoor Sphurti which is an Indoor Sports event conducted by the Sports Council of

tVEC Council:

The month of August has seen elections and interviews taking place at varied levels of the Institution. Be it of the Class-Council Elections of various portfolios, or the Student Council Elections; the nail-biting atmosphere had enveloped one and all.

The tVEC election was held on 4 September 2017. The elections were for the three positions in the council: The Secretary, Deputy Secretary (Junior), Deputy Secretary(Senior). However, unlike the other councils, wherein the Class Council members contest and are elected to these positions, the tVEC Council members had to undergo an interview to be selected for these posts, thus making it concrete that they picked only the very best for their council.

Thus, a new tVEC council came to life on the 4 th of this month. Sagar Ganiga from D15 was selected as the E-Cell Secretary. The Senior Deputies are Aditya Kadam (D14C), Apeksha Kulkarni (D11A), Apurva Raspayle (D14A), Priyanka Pawar (MCA2B), Puja Bathija (D15) and Shivam Sehgal (D14A) while the Junior Deputies are Shreya Patil (D7C), Srujana Kotur (D6A) and Ujala Jha (D10).

Congratulations to all the members and we wish the Council a fantastic year ahead.



Sports Council, 2017



E-Cell Council, 2017

Bliss 2017

-by Harish Muthalagan



BLISS Performers

Bliss whose acronym is “Beauty Lies in Soulful Symphony”- is the inaugural event of the Music Council of VESIT, which is held every year. It is a platform for VESITians to showcase their mettle. It is a two hour event where only the Council Members and a select few are allowed to perform.

This year, Bliss was held in the college auditorium on 23rd August 2017. It included various group performances. The event began with the traditional ‘lightning of the lamp’ by Prof.Vivek Umrikar. It then took off with both the current music secretary, Chinmay Warang, and Ex-Music secretary, Viraj Bapat, performing together.

The event had many different themes such as Bollywood, Rock, Western and Classical. The event was concluded with the entire council coming together to perform the very famous song ‘Despacito’.

BookSwap by tVEC

-by Gayatri Belapurkar

Ever since the VESIT Entrepreneurship Cell (tVEC) was founded in April 2014, it has been achieving newer and greater feats. It stands strong with its vision of conducting events to bring out the Entrepreneurship skills within the students and in turn be beneficial for others too.

The recent event of Bookswap, conducted by tVEC not only showcased the tremendous efficiency and skills that the students of VESIT have, but also gave the audience an insight of their managerial skills. Bookswap took place on the 11th and 12th of August on the second and the fifth floor of VESIT. Bookswap was a one of its kind business idea that was highly profitable for the buyers and sellers alike, and it thus received an overwhelming response from students and faculty alike. The idea was to buy books from the seniors who did not need them anymore at 60% of the MRP and then sold to the juniors at the same rate. As this was lower price than what most other booksellers would offer, it was beneficial to both: the seller and the buyer. Students and the faculty members took part in Bookswap with equal vigor and enthusiasm.

All in all, Bookswap was a huge success. And to put it in the words of the tVEC Secretary, Sagar Ganiga, "We are extremely glad for having received such a positive response and we hope that all our upcoming skill enhancing events are greeted with the same magnitude of energy."

We can indeed expect quite a lot of surprises in the days to come.

Times of India Debate Eliminations

-by Anisha Kaul

The grueling work cycle of the Veslit Circle has already started. They have begun their search to find five teams from first, second, third, fourth years as well as the MCA department to engage in a battle of words and opinions in an ALL Years-All Departments Debate competition which is being sponsored by Times of India. In fact, the winners and first runner's up team (consisting of two members each) will be getting certificates from them as well. It is their first event for the academic year 2017-18 and the council's enthusiasm is at an unprecedented high. The publicity of the eliminations started from the 20th of July, 2017.

The initial stages involved intra-class eliminations where each class was supposed to send in their best two candidates. All these class teams from a particular year battled it out to represent their year and fill in that coveted spot. The eliminations were conducted from 27th of July, 2017 and the Language Lab has been buzzing with activity ever since. The Second year and Final year team has been finalized. Harish Muthalagan and Rakshit Ganvir (both D9A) were selected from the second year. Clive Aaron D'Souza (D16) and Shashank Agnihotri (D17) will be representing the Fourth year. Harish, who participated in a similar event last year as a fresher and stood second quipped that "He was coming for the title!". He also added that the eliminations were quite a fight and he was absolutely ready for the finals. The T.E, F.E and MCA eliminations are in progress and will be reaching their final stages soon.

The final event will be held in September. We wish all the participants good luck!



Students gathered for a head-on competition

PLACEMENTS

Here, we bring to you experiences of students who got recruited in dream companies like Nomura, Indus Valley Partners and General Mills. We hope you make the best of the articles!

KakushIN, 2017

-by Tejas Manekar (D17 A)

A hackathon is a perfect platform to hone and test one's product building and designing skills within the constraints of available time and resources. As a computer engineering student, I am totally fascinated by this amazing concept and so, I always harboured the desire to participate in such an event.

Fortunately, from this academic year, Nomura scheduled KakushIN, a software development, problem statement based hackathon which would also double up as a recruiting platform for them. Nomura being a dream company, I hoped to kill two birds with one stone by participating in the competition.

KakushIN constituted of three rounds - executive summary, presentation and onsite coding/hackathon to be competed by groups of two students each. The problem statement was mailed to us beforehand. It detailed the tasks to be performed by an organization which sought to bridge the gap between various NGOs and the volunteers interested in contributing to the NGO's cause. We had to come up with a digital solution for the same subject to the constraints specified which was to be eventually implemented during the hackathon.

In order to qualify for the final round, we had to succeed in all the previous rounds. The first round involved the submission of executive summaries along with a detailed understanding of the problem statement. The second round involved the presentation of our proposed solution to the Nomura panel which visited our campus for the same. It was quite a learning experience as we came to understand the ingredients that go into making a decent presentation through the questions posed by the panel. Replete with data flow diagrams and process models elucidating our proposed solution, our presentation made the cut and we were all clear to face the final hurdle - the hackathon.

We were treated to a warm welcome at the state-of-the-art Nomura office in Powai, the site of the hackathon, the place where we would spend our next 12

hours to bring our ideas to reality. Nomura provided a pick and drop facility for all the candidates from their homes to the venue. We were overjoyed to learn that we were one of the only ten teams selected from Mumbai. All the softwares necessary for our implementation were downloaded in advance in separate PCs and the internet usage was meticulously monitored. Only GitHub and FileZilla were allowed for sharing the files amongst the team members and the net usage was basically limited to downloading images and other similar resources for our solution. Rules were explained, breakfast was consumed and we were all set to start the coding. We decided on a web based solution, specifically a website which would act as an interface between the participating entities mentioned previously.

Nomura meted out a royal treatment to all the candidates throughout the competition. Unlimited reserves of coffee, tea and biscuits were provided to us. Also, lunch was available too. Since this was my first hackathon, I was initially unsettled by the cacophony that accompanies any hackathon, but eventually managed to calm down my nerves. Me and my partner, Ameya Parab, chalked down a plan of action to efficiently implement the critical functionalities, since it would be a Herculean task to get the entire website up and running within 12 hours. We proceeded using a simple technology stack consisting of HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, PHP and MySQL, since it would be easy for us to debug any error that crept up. Tasks were divided and we were ready to conquer! All the employees we met were quite friendly and helpful and they would leave no stone unturned to make us feel at home. I was quite amazed by the tools that were being used by our competitors ranging from AngularJS to Blockchain. At the end, all the individual components were successfully integrated and we were satisfied with the product that we managed to churn up, although we both felt that the UI could have been improved further.

The next day, panelists questioned us on various aspects of our solution during the code review phase. We answered them confidently and finally presented our solution to a panel of senior Nomura employees. Eventually, the prize distribution ceremony was held and though, we did not manage to secure the top three positions, we were happy to know that another team from our college won the competition, winning MacBook in the process. The teams which finished second and third were awarded iPads and GoPro cameras respectively. The winning team was given a PPO and the rest of the finalists were rewarded with a PPI. I was content with the PPI since half a loaf of bread is better than no bread and that we got at least something in return for our hard work. Then, a high tea session was organized where we got to interact with the employees who their experience of working in Nomura. The remaining finalists were called once again for an interview through which they offered full time employment and I was one of the few to bag the job offer eventually.

Summing up, KakushIN was surely a great learning experience as I learnt whatever I could from my fellow participants and also from the employees. It also taught me valuable lessons in time management and fostering team spirit while maintaining the coordination to achieve our end goals. I would like to thank Nomura for presenting such an opportunity and also my teammate, Ameya for providing his invaluable help and support.

Nomura Campus Placements, 2017

-by Vinit Pawar (D17 A)

In the article below, I have made an honest attempt to sum up my experience of Nomura's campus placement drive. Although I am fully aware that I am nowhere near the best person to give technical advice, I have tried to mention a few sites or topics that helped me apart from my lady luck.

Nomura offered placements to BEs from Computers and IT streams and internships to MCA, but I would be focusing on the process the BEs faced. The offer included a fix 6.3LPA and a 2L bonus. The process consisted of 4 stages. An Aptitude Test, Technical Interview I, HR Interview and Technical Interview II in that order.

Aptitude Test:

Unlike many other dream companies, Nomura had a pen paper based aptitude test. The eligibility criteria was a CGPA of 7 and above. Hence having a decent pointer average is the

first step of having any shot at a dream company. The test consisted of three sections: Quants, Verbal and Logical Reasoning. The difficulty I would say was average and a bit of RS Aggarwal would be the best way to prepare as is the case for almost all aptitudes.

190 students from Computers and IT appeared for this test. The results of the test were announced almost a week later as we had a unit test right after the test was held. On 21st August after our last paper, we were informed that 11 of us were selected and the remainder of the process was to be held on the very next day.

Technical Interview I:

The 11 of us were bifurcated and sent into our allocated labs, where we had our first Technical Interview. I was briefly asked to explain all the projects on my resume. Post this I was asked about what my favorite subject was, to which I replied Cryptography and hence I was asked to explain the RSA algorithm. The other questions were regarding networks, like the TCP/UDP protocol, checksum etc. I tried my best to answer all of them but I did fall short once or twice. The interview ended with a simple logical bank puzzle and in general the interview wasn't very intense. My primary source of preparation was geeksforgeeks.com, which has a ton of puzzles, technical aptitude and interview questions.

HR Interview:

To the best of my knowledge, 7 of us appeared for the HR interview. It was more like a casual conversation than an interview and started off with the all time favorite, tell me something about yourself. I always feels it makes sense to tell them something about you which isn't on your resume already. I told him I was a food enthusiast and believe me, he asked me some nice places to have lunch around our college. The rest of the questions revolved around my family background and schooling. As cliched as it sounds, its best to simply be yourself in this round.

Technical Interview II:

6 of us made it to the last round which tested every last bit of our technical knowledge. The interview lasted around 40 minute on an average and mostly tested our DBMS knowledge. I was lucky to go in third, and hence had time for some last minute DBMS prep. I relied on w3schools and a PDF from Tutorials Point. The interview consisted of a few basic SQL queries and then went on to some really complex real world problems. I was certainly far from perfect in answering all the questions but I did my best to come up with some solutions for almost all scenarios. Also, for most of the questions, the first answer I came up with wasn't really optimal and hence was asked to restructure my solution. I was done with my interview at around 3.30pm.

Once done with all the rounds, I found myself a much needed snack while I stayed back in college due to a few extracurricular commitments. The results were declared at something close to 5.30pm and two of us had been extended a full time job offer.

Placements undoubtedly demand a lot of hard work and some consistent academics but frankly, your stars on the day play a part too. The entire experience was always a win-win situation, because even who didn't make it through went home way wiser which I am sure helped them in the interviews to come.

General Mills Campus Placements, 2017

-by Neha Menon (MCA)

General Mills, Inc., is an American multinational manufacturer and marketer of branded consumer foods sold through retail stores. It is headquartered in Golden Valley, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis. The General Mills recruitment process in VESIT was conducted on 10 August 2017. A team of around 10 representatives visited the campus for the drive, each wearing the General Mills T-shirt.

The recruitment process was conducted in three rounds: The technical round, the management round and the HR round. After the pre placement talk, the students were asked to assemble in the allocated class rooms for the aptitude test. For me personally, the aptitude test was comparatively simpler than the ones of the previous companies and my opinion was seconded by many. The representatives from the companies oversaw the aptitude test. Around quarter of an hour later, the result for the aptitude test was declared. Immediately after, the panels for the interview were set up. The shortlisted students were grouped and each panel was assigned a group.

There were three panels for technical Interviews. My technical interview was the longest and went on for around an hour. I was asked to write two programs and was asked multiple questions on my projects and questions on new technology. I could write the programs and answer most of the questions. My panelist had not shortlisted any candidate for the management round so I did not set my hopes high. But, immediately after I went to the waiting area, I was called for the management round. For this round, the panelists were some of the senior most members from General Mills (India). They asked me to explain the projects I had done and my certifications. They asked me where I saw myself in the next five years and also how I kept myself abreast with the latest technologies. I answered them confidently and to the best of my ability. I was then shortlisted for the final round i.e the HR round. Here, the interviewer asked me about my strengths and weaknesses. He wanted to know what I was doing to overcome my weakness. He further asked me what I thought was the greatest difference between the academic and corporate life. He wanted to know whether I panicked during any of the previous rounds and I truthfully told him that I had, initially, during the technical round when my program wasn't coming through and how I managed to overcome it. His questions were also aimed at testing how well I worked in a team.

The shortlisted students were then asked to assemble in the waiting area. The whole team representing General Mills came to the waiting area and announced the results. I and Vineeth Pillai from MCA 3A were the final selected candidates. We were given goodies and a General Mills T-shirt each.

Indus Valley Partners Campus Placements, 2017

-by Aysha Jagiasi (D17 B)

You can always start your career with a non-dream company and then switch to a dream company but it's an absolute bliss to launch your career with a dream company. IVP falls into the category of dream companies and offers you a post of an Associate Software engineer with a package of 7.48lpa. The whole process is completed in a day and the results are out by the end of the day.

The process is divided into 5 stages -

1. Pre-placement Talk:

Pre-Placement talk is a presentation about company and placement process presented by company members(HRs) for the participating candidates in which they share details about company, placement rounds, package, profile, location, doubts and queries and so on.. It is important to attend because the ppt is the "window to the company".

Sometimes questions in the interview are based on what is spoken in the pre-placement talk. So you need to listen very carefully and note down important points.

2. Aptitude Test:

There were more than 350 candidates appearing for the test and they were segregated in two slots. The aptitude test included quantitative and technical objective questions. Also, there were two fairly easy coding questions. (Floyd triangle, Armstrong number)

Solve the coding questions first and try to get them correct. It's like an entry point to clear the aptitude.

Out of 350+ people, 52 made it for the next round.

3. Group discussion:

The selected students were divided into groups of 10-12 members each. The group discussion topics were abstract.(Is India ready to go cashless?, Is youth of India confident or confused?). Every group is given a minute to prepare for the topic and then they are supposed to discuss for the next 8 minutes. Not much filtration is done from this round.

The "Something" you speak out loud must be related and should have a valid point in it.

42 students cleared this round.

4. Technical Interview:

This round is solely based on your resume. The questioning varies depending on your skill set, your projects and your internships. What is most important though is that you should be able to justify your resume. The first thing an interviewer does is go through your resume, and pick up on technologies mentioned there. Most technical interviewers do give a leeway, when they ask you to rate yourself on technologies. Give a rating that is realistic, do not give a rating just to impress the interviewer.

Drive your interview by mentioning what you're good at in the introduction itself.If you don't know answer to any question or puzzle, convey how much you know.

Interviewer doesn't care about the the answer but only wants to know your approach.

14 Students were selected for HR round.

5. HR Interview:

General HR questions are asked. Jot down following responses and you should be good to go -

- Self introduction and what's unique about you.
- Strengths and weakness.
- Why should they hire you?
- Short term and long term goals.
- Wear a smile !

In this round, all they want to test is, whether you are the best option or should they consider someone else. Interviewer wants to know you as a person and wants to make sure that you are an absolute fit for the role. So, give them the reason that you are the one who they are looking for. Back up your answers with your experiences from the past. Speak confidently. Present yourself properly and most importantly, don't fumble.

Within the next two hours, results were out and out of 14 students, 3 were offered a job; one of them being me.

VESIT Diaries

-by Padmaja Kollé

Mr. Rishi Agrawal is a technologist with over 16 years of experience in designing and building technology systems in areas like embedded systems, product lifecycle management and financial institutions. He currently works as an **Executive Director in Nomura Services India Pvt. Ltd. in Information Technology division**. He belongs to the Batch of 2001 from the Department of Electronics.

Apart from his exciting weekdays dealing with work challenges, time off from work is spent with family, friends and pursuing hobbies like playing sport or playing musical instruments like guitar, keyboard and flute. He has not received any formal music training, plays by the ear hence looks forward to play new instruments

1. Tell us something about your college life.

My college life was focused more on academics though I was active in sports too. The goal was to learn and get good marks which would help in getting a good job or good college for further studies. Being inclined in sports, I participated in college table tennis tournaments from 2nd year and was part of the winning team for 3 years, not just within the college but also external tournaments like inter-engineering. Website development was a fad amongst us those early days of internet. I had built one of my own, not realizing that will help me a lot one day. Though we had good campus jobs in hand, it was tough time immediately after college as companies were not ready to onboard us due to dot-com bust.

2. Share a glimpse of your personal life.

I am a strong believer of one's destiny in own hands. With discipline and hard work everything is achievable. Spending time with family revitalizes me. I try and spend time to read new stuff, this could be new technology developments or something related to work. It is easy to get into a mindset that it is difficult to change yourself as you age, I don't believe in that. We can change ourselves at any age.

3. How important, according to you, are interpersonal skills at professional level? Do academics and interpersonal skills go hand in hand?

Interpersonal skills are vital at both professional and personal level. It creates a big difference in your career. You may have the best of minds, best of ideas but if you cannot articulate it, influence people around you, the idea may remain only an idea.

4. Is it necessary to have a full proof plan for your career from the beginning itself?

It is always good to have a good plan from career planning perspective, sooner the better. Though the plan should have multiple options and flexibility as you discover your strengths as you go along. It is very important to like what you do otherwise it is not sustainable. Given that change is the only constant in life, a flexible plan well thought through is the right approach to build a successful career

5. Let's talk about your professional life.

Being one of the toppers in college, getting a campus job was quite easy. Though we had a rough year post Y2K dot-com bust hence most companies couldn't onboard new joiners for an indefinite period. I was fortunate to utilize the initial ~1 year working as a Research Assistant in a premier institute

after which I got a call from my on-campus offer. The website development skill I acquired as a fun in college was the key to get this research assistance job. Since college days I knew my passion lies in technology hence I continued in roles which offered me work in my strength areas. The initial years were all about building a strong foundation, not just to remove the 'fresher' tag but also to build the right foundation to help me gain a valuable experience and build a strong career. I have worked in couple of firms each in different industry, ranging from services based to product based to financial captives which has given me a nice exposure of how technology is used in various domains and the nuances in the operating model of these firms



Mr. Rishi Agrawal

6. Tell us how important is it for an engineer /engineering student to have a life beyond technology? (Importance of hobbies in one's life)

I believe everyone should have atleast 1 hobby and dedicate time to fulfil it. Playing sports and musical instruments are my hobbies which provide me the energy and motivation. People need to get outdoor and take up activities like sport or some form of exercise to avoid health problems originating from modern work lifestyle

7. Can you throw some light upon the activities students can do from the beginning which will help them mould their career?

Keep reading on what's going around in the industry, try and understand what you are good at. Be well connected to your friends and peers, we learn best from each other. Focus on building interpersonal skills, leadership skills – these are very important beyond your core expertise.

8. Any message for the new generation at VESIT!?

Keep abreast of industry trends. Explore areas outside of studies and academics. Have a positive attitude, that creates a big difference, never be let down by failures, each failure gives a valuable experience which makes you stronger to deal with similar situations in future. "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going"

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